

1 A two-step mechanism for the inactivation of microtubule organizing center function at the  
2 centrosome

3

4 Jérémy Magescas, Jennifer C. Zonka, and Jessica L. Feldman \*

5

6 Department of Biology, Stanford University, 371 Serra Mall, Stanford, 94305, CA, USA

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17 \* Corresponding author:

18 Jessica L. Feldman

19 Department of Biology

20 Stanford University

21 371 Serra Mall

22 94305 Stanford, USA

23 Phone : +1 650 723-3767

24 [feldmanj@stanford.edu](mailto:feldmanj@stanford.edu)

25

26

27

28 Keywords: centrosome; microtubule organizing center; microtubule; mitosis

29

30 Running title: Mechanisms of centrosome disassembly

31 Summary

32 During mitosis, the centrosome acts as a microtubule organizing center (MTOC), orchestrating  
33 microtubules into the mitotic spindle through its pericentriolar material (PCM). This activity is  
34 biphasic, cycling through assembly and disassembly during the cell cycle. Although  
35 hyperactive centrosomal MTOC activity is a hallmark of some cancers, little is known about  
36 how the centrosome is inactivated as an MTOC. Analysis of endogenous PCM proteins in *C.*  
37 *elegans* revealed that the PCM is composed of distinct protein territories that are removed  
38 from the centrosome at different rates and using different behaviors. Inhibition of PP2A  
39 phosphatases stabilized the PCM and perturbation of cortical pulling forces altered the timing  
40 and behavior by which proteins were removed from the centrosome. These data indicate that  
41 PCM disassembly is a two-step process, beginning with a phosphatase-dependent dissolution  
42 of PCM proteins followed by the ejection of ruptured PCM by cortical forces, ultimately  
43 inactivating MTOC function at the centrosome.

44

## 45 Introduction

46  
47 Numerous cell functions such as transport, migration, and division are achieved through the  
48 specific spatial organization of microtubules imparted by microtubule organizing centers  
49 (MTOCs). The best-studied MTOC is the centrosome, a membrane-less organelle composed  
50 of two barrel-shaped microtubule-based centrioles surrounded by a cloud of pericentriolar  
51 material (PCM). Microtubules at the centrosome are mainly nucleated and localized by  
52 complexes within the PCM, which generate a radial array of microtubules in dividing animal  
53 cells and some cell specialized types such as fibroblasts.

54 The PCM is a central hub for the regulation of numerous cellular processes including  
55 centriole duplication, ciliogenesis, cell cycle regulation, cell fate determination, and microtubule  
56 organization (Chichinadze, Lazarashvili, & Tkemaladze, 2012; Fry, Sampson, Shak, &  
57 Shackleton, 2017; Stubenvoll, Medley, Irwin, & Song, 2016). In *Drosophila* and human cell  
58 lines, PCM proteins are organized in cumulative layers to ultimately recruit microtubule  
59 nucleation and organization factors, such as the conserved microtubule nucleating  $\gamma$ -tubulin  
60 ring complex ( $\gamma$ -TuRC) (Fu & Glover, 2012; Lawo, Hasegan, Gupta, & Pelletier, 2012;  
61 Mennella, Agard, Huang, & Pelletier, 2014; Mennella et al., 2012). In *C. elegans*, the PCM is  
62 much simpler in composition, built from the interdependent recruitment of two scaffolding  
63 proteins, SPD-2/CEP192 and SPD-5 (Hamill, Severson, Carter, & Bowerman, 2002; Kemp,  
64 Kopish, Zipperlen, Ahringer, & O'Connell, 2004; Wueseke, Bunkenborg, Hein, Zinke, Viscardi,  
65 Woodruff, Oegema, Mann, Andersen, & Hyman, 2014b). Together with AIR-1/Aurora-A, SPD-2  
66 and SPD-5 are required to localize  $\gamma$ -TuRC, which in *C. elegans* is composed of TBG-1/ $\gamma$ -  
67 tubulin, GIP-1/GCP3, GIP-2/GCP2 and MZT-1/MZT1 (Bobinnec, Fukuda, & Nishida, 2000;  
68 Hamill et al., 2002; Hannak et al., 2002; Kemp et al., 2004; Lin, Neuner, & Schiebel, 2015;  
69 Oakley, Paolillo, & Zheng, 2015; Sallee, Zonka, Skokan, Raftrey, & Feldman, 2018).  $\gamma$ -TuRC  
70 and AIR-1 together are required to build microtubules at the centrosome in the *C. elegans*  
71 zygote (Motegi, Velarde, Piano, & Sugimoto, 2006). Although the pathways required to build  
72 the PCM are largely known in *C. elegans*, the organization of proteins within the PCM has  
73 been unexplored.

74 The centrosome is not a static organelle; during each cell cycle, MTOC activity at the  
75 centrosome is massively increased to ultimately build the mitotic spindle (DICTENBERG et al.,  
76 1998; Woodruff, Wueseke, & Hyman, 2014). This increase in centrosomal MTOC activity relies  
77 on the recruitment of PCM proteins to the centrosome, a process that is controlled by the  
78 concentration and availability of PCM proteins and their phosphorylation by mitotic kinases

79 (e.g. CDK1, PLK1, and Aurora A) (Conduit et al., 2010; Conduit, Feng, et al., 2014a; Conduit,  
80 Richens, et al., 2014b; Decker et al., 2011; Novak, Wainman, Gartenmann, & Raff, 2016;  
81 Wueseke, Bunkenborg, Hein, Zinke, Viscardi, Woodruff, Oegema, Mann, Andersen, & Hyman,  
82 2014a; Wueseke et al., 2016; Yang & Feldman, 2015). During mitotic exit, MTOC activity of the  
83 centrosome rapidly decreases, marked by the reduction of the PCM and microtubule  
84 association. Although the mechanisms controlling PCM disassembly have been relatively  
85 unexplored, inhibition of CDK activity can drive precocious PCM disassembly and inhibition of  
86 the PP2A phosphatase LET-92 perturbs SPD-5 removal from the centrosome, suggesting that  
87 phosphatase activity could be more generally required for the inactivation of MTOC function at  
88 the centrosome (Enos, Dressler, Gomes, Hyman, & Woodruff, 2018; Yang & Feldman, 2015).  
89 This cycle of centrosomal MTOC activity continues every cell cycle, but can also be naturally  
90 discontinued during cell differentiation when MTOC function is often reassigned to non-  
91 centrosomal sites (Sanchez & Feldman, 2016).

92 The inactivation of MTOC activity of the centrosome is likely critical in a number of  
93 cellular and developmental contexts. For example, asymmetric cell division is often associated  
94 with unequal PCM association at the mother vs. daughter centrosome and terminal  
95 differentiation of murine cardiomyocytes and keratinocytes has been linked to centrosome  
96 inactivation (Cheng, Tiyaboonchai, Yamashita, & Hunt, 2011; Conduit & Raff, 2010;  
97 Muroyama, Seldin, & Lechler, 2016; Zebrowski et al., 2015). In an extreme example, female  
98 gametes in a range of organisms completely eliminate centrosomes and this elimination can  
99 be a critical step in gametogenesis (Borrego-Pinto et al., 2016; Lu & Roy, 2014; Luksza,  
100 Queguigner, Verlhac, & Brunet, 2013; Mikeladze-Dvali et al., 2012; Pimenta-Marques et al.,  
101 2016). Moreover, hyperactive MTOC function at the centrosome has been linked to several  
102 types of epithelial cancers and invasive cell behavior, and is a hallmark of tumors (Godinho &  
103 Pellman, 2014; Lingle, Lutz, Ingle, Maihle, & Salisbury, 1998; Pihan, 2013; Pihan et al., 2001;  
104 Salisbury, Lingle, White, Cordes, & Barrett, 1999). Despite the clear importance of properly  
105 regulating MTOC activity, little is known about the mechanisms that inactivate MTOC function  
106 at the centrosome, either what initiates the removal of PCM and microtubules during the cell  
107 cycle or what keeps them off the centrosome in differentiated cells.

108 To better understand how MTOC activity is regulated at the centrosome, here we  
109 investigate the localization and dynamics of endogenously tagged PCM proteins in the *C.*  
110 *elegans* embryo. We find that *C. elegans* PCM is composed of layered spheres of proteins,  
111 with SPD-5 and  $\gamma$ -TuRC occupying distinct regions from known binding partners SPD-2 and  
112 MZT-1, respectively. Live imaging of SPD-2, SPD-5, and  $\gamma$ -TuRC components at the end of

113 mitosis revealed two phases of disassembly, beginning with the gradual dissolution of PCM  
114 proteins, followed by the rupture of the remaining PCM into small microtubule associated  
115 packets. Using pharmacological or genetic perturbations, we found a role for PP2A  
116 phosphatases in the initial dissolution of PCM proteins and for cortical pulling forces in the  
117 clearance of the remaining PCM from the centrosome. Delay in PCM removal impacted  
118 subsequent centriole separation and PCM maturation in the next cell cycle. These data  
119 indicate that the inactivation of MTOC function at the centrosome involves a regulated two-step  
120 process of PCM disassembly, the timing of which is critical to the developing embryo.

121

122

## 123 Results

124

### 125 *C. elegans* PCM is organized into an inner and outer sphere

126 In order to better understand how PCM proteins behave during disassembly, we first  
127 characterized the spatial organization of the PCM during mitosis in the ABp cell of the 4-cell *C.*  
128 *elegans* embryo. ABp has relatively large centrosomes oriented during cell division along the  
129 left-right axis of the embryo, with one of the centrosomes positioned very close to the coverslip  
130 with an end-on orientation (Figure 1A). We analyzed the localization of endogenously-tagged  
131 PCM proteins immediately after nuclear envelope breakdown (NEBD) in the ABp cell (Figure  
132 1A) (Dickinson, Pani, Heppert, Higgins, & Goldstein, 2015; Dickinson, Ward, Reiner, &  
133 Goldstein, 2013). At this time, the centrosome still functions as an MTOC, actively growing and  
134 organizing microtubules (Figure 1A).

135 We assessed the localization of the centriole component SAS-4, the PCM proteins  
136 SPD-2 and SPD-5, and the  $\gamma$ -TuRC components GIP-1 and MZT-1 (Figure 1B, Figure 1 -  
137 supplement 1). As expected, the centrioles sit at the center of the centrosome (Figure 1B, C)  
138 surrounded by SPD-2, SPD-5 and  $\gamma$ -TuRC. Interestingly, SPD-2 and SPD-5 displayed two  
139 distinct boundaries, with both SPD-2/CEP192 and SPD-5 localizing to a more internally  
140 restricted “inner sphere” (Figure 1B, C) and SPD-5 extending further into an “outer sphere”  
141 (Figure 1B, C). Similar to SPD-5, GIP-1 localization extended into the outer sphere (Figure 1B,  
142 C), however surprisingly, the  $\gamma$ -TuRC component MZT-1 showed an intermediary localization,  
143 extending to a region between the inner and outer sphere (Figure 1B, C). Based on these  
144 observations, we conclude that the PCM has a layered structure with an inner sphere delimited  
145 by SPD-2 (Figure 1D) that also localizes SPD-5 and  $\gamma$ -TuRC components, and an outer sphere  
146 delimited by the SPD-5 and GIP-1 (Figure 1D). This organization follows the general pattern of

147 the predicted orthologs in *Drosophila* and human cells (Fu & Glover, 2012; Lawo et al., 2012;  
148 Mennella et al., 2012; 2014), but is somewhat surprising as SPD-5 and GIP-1 are found in a  
149 region lacking known binding partners SPD-2 and MZT-1, respectively.

150

### 151 *PCM proteins disassemble with different behaviors*

152 Based on their distinct localization within the PCM, we hypothesized that different PCM  
153 proteins would disassemble with different kinetics and behaviors. To test this hypothesis, we  
154 examined the dynamics of disassembly of each of the endogenously-tagged PCM proteins  
155 described above by live-imaging in the ABp cell beginning at NEBD (Figure 1E). SPD-2 (Video  
156 1) and MZT-1 (Video 2) displayed similar disassembly behaviors, leaving the centrosome by  
157 gradual dissolution over time. In contrast, SPD-5 (Video 3) and GIP-1 (Video 4) initially showed  
158 a gradual pattern of disassembly, however the structure containing these proteins then  
159 appeared to rupture and fragment into “packets” that were distinct from the centrioles. These  
160 sub-PCM packets localized SPD-5, GIP-1/GCP3 (Figure 2A, *early packets*), and microtubules  
161 (Figure 2B, *early packets*), but neither SPD-2 nor MZT-1 (Figure 2D, see below). Intriguingly,  
162 packets appeared to retain MTOC potential as EBP-2/EB1 comets, a marker of growing  
163 microtubule plus ends, dynamically moved from the SPD-5/GIP-1 foci (Figure 2C). The  
164 packets appeared to be further disassembled in the cytoplasm following their removal from the  
165 PCM, with GIP-1 and microtubules first losing their association, followed by SPD-5 (Figure 2A,  
166 B, *late packets*, Figure 2E).

167 To gain a better sense of the timing of the disassembly of the different PCM proteins,  
168 we imaged each protein in combination with SPD-5. SPD-2 (Figure 3A) and MZT-1 (Figure 3B)  
169 showed a gradual decrease in intensity, beginning at 2 ( $2.20 \pm 0.13$  min,  $n=10$ ) or 3 minutes  
170 ( $3.00 \pm 0.27$  min,  $n=8$ ) post-NEBD, respectively, several minutes before the decrease in either  
171 SPD-5 or GIP-1 (Figure 3D, E). Consistent with this trend, we found that the PCM volume of  
172 SPD-2 and MZT-1 gradually decreased beginning 3 minutes post-NEBD (SPD-2:  $3.00 \pm 0.21$   
173 min,  $n=10$ ; MZT-1:  $2.88 \pm 0.23$  min,  $n=8$ ). As expected from our observation of the individual  
174 localization behaviors, both SPD-5 and GIP-1 co-localized during the process of disassembly  
175 (Figure 3C, Video 5). We observed the same trend in both the total intensity and PCM volume  
176 of SPD-5 and GIP-1 (Figure 2D, E); both proteins rapidly decreased in intensity following their  
177 peak at 3 minutes post-NEBD (SPD-5:  $3.00 \pm 0.14$  min,  $n=11$ ; GIP-1:  $3.18 \pm 0.12$  min,  $n=11$ ), and  
178 their volume dramatically and precipitously reduced at the PCM beginning 6 minutes post-  
179 NEBD (SPD-5:  $5.91 \pm 0.17$  min,  $n=11$ ; GIP-1:  $6.00 \pm 0.19$  min,  $n=11$ ), reflecting packet formation.  
180 Together, these data indicate that the PCM disassembles in two distinct steps: a dissolution

181 step that is characterized by the decrease in intensity of PCM proteins that starts with the  
182 removal of SPD-2 and MZT-1; and a rupture/packet formation step where the deformation and  
183 subsequent rupture of the PCM leads to further disassembly into individual packets.

184

### 185 *Cortical forces mediate the disassembly of the PCM and more specifically SPD-5*

186 The formation of packets that appear to be pulled away from the centrioles suggests  
187 that mechanical forces underlie this aspect of PCM disassembly. Forces can be exerted on the  
188 PCM by a conserved cortically anchored complex of LIN-5/NuMA, LGN/GPR-1/2, and (GOA-  
189 1/GPA-16)/Gai, which localizes dynein-dynactin that can pull on the astral microtubules  
190 extending from the PCM (Kotak & Gönczy, 2013). Given that greater cortical forces exist in the  
191 posterior of the one-cell *C. elegans* embryo, it has been hypothesized that these forces could  
192 be responsible for the asynchrony observed in the disassembly of the anterior vs. the posterior  
193 centrosome (Grill, Gonczy, Stelzer, & Hyman, 2001). Moreover, a recent study implicated the  
194 GPR-1/2/LIN-5/DHC-1 complex in SPD-5 disassembly from the PCM (Enos et al., 2018).

195 To assess the involvement of cortical forces in the general disassembly of the PCM and  
196 specifically in rupture and packet formation, we used RNAi to either decrease (*gpr-1/2*(RNAi))  
197 or increase (*csnk-1*(RNAi)) cortical forces. In control embryos treated with lacZ RNAi, SPD-5  
198 ruptured starting 6 min post-NEBD ( $5.91 \pm 0.16$  min,  $n=11$ ) and formed packets at 8 min post-  
199 NEBD ( $7.73 \pm 0.14$  min,  $n=11$ ; Figure 4A). In contrast, we did not observe SPD-5 rupture or  
200 packet formation in *gpr-1/2*(RNAi) treated embryos (Figure 4A). Instead, SPD-5, like SPD-2,  
201 was removed from the centrosome by gradual dissolution (Figure 4B). In *csnk-1*(RNAi) treated  
202 embryos, we observed slightly earlier SPD-5 rupture ( $5.4 \pm 0.2$  min,  $n=7$ ) and packet formation  
203 ( $7.14 \pm 0.14$  min,  $n=7$ ; Figure 4A). In contrast to SPD-5, SPD-2 disassembly appeared  
204 unaffected following depletion of either *gpr-1/2* or *csnk-1* by RNAi (Figure 4C). Interestingly,  
205 both SPD-5 intensity and volume were increased or decreased by either *gpr-1/2* or *csnk-1*  
206 depletion (Figure 4A, Figure 4 – figure supplemental 1). Together, these results suggest that  
207 cortical forces generate the mechanical forces necessary for rupture and packet formation,  
208 allowing for the removal of the outer sphere protein SPD-5 but not the exclusively inner sphere  
209 protein SPD-2.

210 Cortical forces could be present and constant throughout mitosis or instead intensify at  
211 the time of disassembly as is the case in the zygote, providing forces only when necessary  
212 (Gönczy & Rose, 2005; Rose & Gönczy, 2014). To distinguish between these possibilities, we  
213 tracked the localization of LIN-5, DNC-1/dynactin, DHC-1/dynein heavy chain, and  
214 microtubules during different stages of mitosis. We saw no change in the gross cortical

215 distribution or intensity of LIN-5 (Figure 4 – figure supplement 2A) or DNC-1 (Figure 4 – figure  
216 supplement 2B) post-NEBD. Similarly, DHC-1 cortical localization appeared consistent over  
217 time (Figure 4 – figure supplement 2C), although we saw an ephemeral redistribution of DHC-1  
218 coincident with rupture (Figure 4 – figure supplement 2D, 4 min.). Strikingly, astral  
219 microtubules showed a network reorganization post-NEBD, growing progressively longer and  
220 contacting the cell cortex, sometimes wrapping around the membrane (Figure 4 – figure  
221 supplement 2E). This pattern of localization suggests that although cortical complexes are  
222 present throughout the cell cycle, they may only make productive contact with astral  
223 microtubules at a particular time period to allow for outer sphere disassembly.

224         The rapid rounds of PCM assembly and disassembly during the early embryonic  
225 divisions suggest that efficient and robust PCM disassembly might be critical for subsequent  
226 carefully timed events such as centriole separation and the assembly of new PCM in the next  
227 cell cycle (Cabral, Sans, Cowan, & Dammermann, 2013). We tested whether force dependent  
228 PCM removal corresponds to centriolar separation by tracking SAS-4::GFP during  
229 disassembly (Figure 4D). In control embryos, the centriolar pair appeared as a single SAS-4  
230 focus up to 5 minutes post-NEBD (Figure 4D). Two closely apposed SAS-4 foci became  
231 apparent beginning at 5 min post-NEBD (Stage 1, Figure 4D), which quickly separated by  
232 greater than 1 $\mu$ m beginning about 1 minute later (Stage 2, Figure 4D). We saw a significant  
233 delay in the onsets of both Stage 1 and Stage 2 in *gpr-1/2*(RNAi) treated embryos, but no  
234 significant change in *csnk-1*(RNAi) treated embryos (Figure 4D). These results suggest that  
235 cortical forces facilitate centriole separation either through direct force transmission or  
236 indirectly through their role in PCM removal. That *csnk-1* RNAi had no effect on the timing of  
237 centriole separation suggests that a force-independent licensing event is necessary to initiate  
238 separation (Cabral et al., 2013; Tsou & Stearns, 2006), but that centrioles are subsequently  
239 held together by PCM. In addition to defects in centriole separation, we observed that *gpr-*  
240 *1/2*(RNAi) treated embryos had defects in effectively clearing SPD-5, but not SPD-2, from the  
241 PCM prior to the subsequent round of PCM accumulation in the next cell cycle (Figure 4B, E).  
242 Consistent with these defects, the timing of subsequent SPD-5 accumulation was significantly  
243 delayed as compared to control embryos (Figure 4 – supplement 1C). Together, these results  
244 underscore the importance of the timely removal of PCM to the developing embryo.

245

#### 246 *PP2A phosphatases are required for PCM dissolution*

247         As the growth of the PCM is highly dependent on phosphorylation and CDK inhibition  
248 causes precocious removal of PCM proteins (Woodruff et al., 2014; Yang & Feldman, 2015),



249 we hypothesized that the dissolution of the PCM that precedes rupture and packet formation  
250 requires phosphatase activity. To test this hypothesis, we treated cycling embryonic cells at  
251 anaphase with either a broad-spectrum serine/threonine phosphatase inhibitor (okadaic acid)  
252 or a PP2A inhibitor (rubratoxin A, Figure 5A). We observed a stabilization of the PCM in both  
253 okadaic acid and rubratoxin A treated embryos compared to control embryos treated with  
254 DMSO. Notably, treatment with either drug led to depolymerization of the microtubules,  
255 perhaps due to the hyperactivation of the depolymerizing kinesin KLP-7 during PP2A  
256 inactivation (Schlaitz et al., 2007). Consistent with these pharmacological inhibition results, a  
257 recent study implicated the PP2A subunit LET-92 in SPD-5 disassembly (Enos et al., 2018).

258 To assess the function of LET-92 on PCM disassembly in general and more specifically  
259 on dissolution and packet formation, we treated SPD-2::GFP; tagRFP::SPD-5 expressing  
260 embryos with *let-92*(RNAi). As previously reported, *let-92* inhibition caused severe defects in  
261 cell division, necessitating analysis in the one-cell zygote rather than 4-cell embryo (Song, Liu,  
262 Anderson, Jahng, & O'Connell, 2011). We monitored PCM disassembly in the one-cell zygote  
263 beginning when the membrane invagination that occurs during cytokinetic furrow formation  
264 was visible. At this stage in control embryos, PCM disassembly occurs in a similar manner to  
265 ABp cells, with SPD-2 dissolution preceding SPD-5 rupture and packet formation (Figure 5B).

266 *let-92* depletion impaired the disassembly of SPD-2 and SPD-5 from the centrosome in  
267 three distinct ways (Figure 5C). First, SPD-5 was still partially cleared from the centrosome into  
268 packets, which persisted significantly longer in the cytoplasm as compared to control (Figure  
269 5C). Interestingly, unlike in control embryos where SPD-2 was cleared from the centrosome by  
270 gradual dissolution, SPD-2 ruptured and frequently appeared in packets following *let-92*  
271 depletion (Figure 5C). Second, the rate and time of SPD-2 and SPD-5 disassembly were  
272 significantly slower in *let-92* depleted embryos than in control, as indicated by tracking the total  
273 centrosomal SPD-2 and SPD-5 over time (Figure 5E, F). Centriole duplication fails following  
274 *let-92* depletion such that each centrosome at this stage contains only one rather than two  
275 centrioles (Song et al., 2011). Thus, total centrosome intensity measurements underestimate  
276 differences between control and *let-92* depletion conditions because centriole number defects  
277 alter the underlying amounts of centriole-localized SPD-2 or SPD-5. Finally, we found that  
278 although much of the SPD-2 and SPD-5 appeared to be cleared from the PCM into packets,  
279 *let-92* depletion inhibited the complete removal of either protein from the centrosome (Figure  
280 5C, G).

281 The partial removal of SPD-2 and SPD-5 in packets suggested that *let-92* depletion  
282 affected mainly dissolution, and that much, but not all, of the remaining PCM was cleared by

283 cortical forces. To test this model, we inhibited *let-92* together with *gpr-1/2* and observed a  
284 strong stabilization of both SPD-2 (Figure 5D, E) and SPD-5 (Figure 5D, F) at the PCM without  
285 rupture or packet formation. These data indicate that cortical forces are necessary but not  
286 sufficient to remove both SPD-2 and SPD-5 from the centrosome. Together, these results  
287 indicate that PP2A phosphatases control the dissolution of SPD-2 and SPD-5, and that both  
288 PP2A and cortical forces are required for the efficient and timely removal of the PCM from the  
289 centrosome.

290

291

292 Discussion

293

294 We found that the *C. elegans* centrosome is organized into an inner and an outer sphere of  
295 PCM, which disassemble via a two-step mechanism. This organization appears to be generally  
296 conserved between direct and functional orthologs in *C. elegans*, *Drosophila*, and human  
297 PCM, suggesting evolutionary pressure to create specific functional PCM domains and that the  
298 mechanisms of disassembly described here might be generally conserved. The existence of  
299 SPD-5 and GIP-1 in a region lacking SPD-2 and MZT-1 suggests that these proteins have the  
300 ability to form a matrix in the absence of their known binding partners. SPD-5 can form a  
301 matrix in vitro and perhaps its self-association drives outer sphere assembly (Woodruff et al.,  
302 2015). Similarly, experiments from *S. pombe* suggests that MZT1 drives the assembly of the  $\gamma$ -  
303 TuRC, however, the presence of GIP-1 in the outer sphere associated with dynamic  
304 microtubules suggests that in *C. elegans* the  $\gamma$ -TuRC can assemble and function in the  
305 absence of MZT-1 as has been seen at other cellular sites (Sallee et al., 2018).

306 Our data suggest that PCM is initially removed from the centrosome by  
307 dephosphorylation, either through the direct action of PP2A phosphatases on PCM proteins or  
308 indirectly through the inactivation of mitotic kinases. This removal of PCM proteins from the  
309 inner sphere weakens the remaining PCM, allowing for rupture of the outer sphere by cortical  
310 pulling forces that rupture the remaining PCM into packets. The removal of both SPD-2 and  
311 MZT-1 appears to exclusively depend on phosphatase activity as they do not localize in  
312 packets and their disassembly was not affected by the inhibition of cortical forces.

313 Furthermore, a pool of both SPD-2 and SPD-5 remained at the centrosome following LET-92  
314 depletion, indicating that the cortical forces alone are not sufficient for their effective clearance.  
315 Thus, PCM disassembly appears to be initiated by dephosphorylation by the PP2A subunit  
316 LET-92. As LET-92 plays a number of roles at the centrosome and phosphatase activity can

317 directly regulate mitotic kinases (Enos et al., 2018; Kitagawa et al., 2011; Song et al., 2011),  
318 further studies will be necessary to determine if its role in PCM dissolution is direct or indirect.

319       Following dissolution, we found that the PCM fragments into small packets that retain  
320 MTOC potential. These packets are reminiscent of PCM flares described in *Drosophila*  
321 (Megraw, Kilaru, Turner, & Kaufman, 2002). Although PCM flares are reported to be present  
322 throughout the cell cycle rather than exclusively during centrosome disassembly as for the  
323 packets we describe, the molecular and mechanistic underpinnings of both of these structures  
324 might be common. For example, flares were first defined by their association with Centrosomin  
325 (Cnn), the proposed functional ortholog of SPD-5 (Megraw et al., 2002). Cnn is proposed to  
326 live in different states in the PCM in *Drosophila*, assembling first near the centrioles in a  
327 phosphorylated state and transiting towards the PCM periphery as a higher order multimerized  
328 scaffold where Cnn molecules are likely eventually dephosphorylated and lose PCM  
329 association (Conduit, Richens, et al., 2014b). Similarly, the inner sphere of SPD-5 may  
330 represent a specific pool of SPD-5 that can be readily dissociated by dephosphorylation, while  
331 the outer sphere may represent a macromolecular scaffold that relies on physical disruption for  
332 disassembly. Moreover, it appears from our observations that packets persist for several  
333 minutes in the cytoplasm before their complete disappearance, indicating a relatively stable  
334 state. Recent studies of *in vitro* assembled PCM point to different physical properties between  
335 'young' and 'old' condensates of SPD-5, with young condensates behaving more like a liquid  
336 and old condensates acting more like a gel (Woodruff et al., 2017). Perhaps packets are the  
337 remnants of older gel-like matrices of SPD-5, which would also explain their ability to be torn  
338 apart by cortical forces.

339       Our results indicate that cortical forces can shape the PCM in multiple ways, mainly  
340 through an effect on outer sphere proteins. The balance of cortical forces appears to tune the  
341 levels of SPD-5 incorporation into the PCM, independently of SPD-2; decreasing or increasing  
342 cortical forces caused more or less SPD-5 incorporation but had no effect on the levels of  
343 SPD-2. Thus, cortical forces negatively regulate the growth of the PCM, hypothetically by  
344 physically removing PCM from the outer sphere. We found a pool of SPD-5 that remained at  
345 the centrosome after perturbation of cortical forces, further suggesting that SPD-5 can be  
346 differentially regulated within the PCM, perhaps through spatially segregated pools of  
347 differentially phosphorylated SPD-5.

348       In total, these results suggest that PCM is disassembled through the removal of the  
349 inner sphere of PCM by PP2A phosphatase activity, followed by the outer sphere by cortical  
350 pulling forces, which liberate dynamic microtubules and inactivate MTOC function at the

351 centrosome. With an understanding of the mechanisms underlying this process, future studies  
352 will reveal whether hyperactive MTOC function at the centrosome has a direct effect on the cell  
353 cycle or cell differentiation in a developing organism, as has been previously postulated.  
354  
355

356 Materials and Methods

357

358 *C. elegans* strains and maintenance

359 *C. elegans* strains were maintained at 20°C unless otherwise specified and cultured as  
 360 previously described (Brenner, 1974). Experiments were performed using embryos from one-  
 361 day adults. Unless otherwise indicated, at least five embryos were scored in each experimental  
 362 condition. Strains used in this study are as follows:

363

364

Strain Name	Genotype	Source
N2	<i>Bristol N2</i>	CGC
JLF14	<i>gip-1(wow3[gfp::gip-1]) III</i>	(Sallee et al., 2018)
JLF432	<i>spd-2(wow60[spd-2::gfp<sup>3xflag</sup>]) I</i>	This study
JLF359	<i>spd-5(wow36[tagrfp-t<sup>3xmyc</sup>::spd-5]) I</i>	This study
JLF361	<i>spd-5(wow52[gfp<sup>3xflag</sup>::spd-5]) I</i>	This study
JLF342	<i>zif-1 (gk117); mzt-1(wow51[gfp<sup>3xflag</sup>::mzt-1]) I</i>	(Sallee et al., 2018)
JLF198	<i>Zif-1 (gk117); sas-4(wow32[zf<sup>3xflag</sup>::sas-4]) III</i>	This study
JLF50	<i>zif-1(gk117), outcrossed 6x</i>	(Sallee et al., 2018)
JLF427	<i>spd-5(wow36[tagrfp-t<sup>3xmyc</sup>::spd-5]) I; unc-119(ed3); ruls57[pie-1p::GFP::tbb/β-tubulin; unc-119(+)]</i>	This study/CGC
JLF428	<i>spd-5(wow36[tagrfp-t<sup>3xmyc</sup>::spd-5]) I; ebp-2(wow47[ebp-2::gfp<sup>3xflag</sup>]) II</i>	This study/(Sallee et al., 2018)
JLF430	<i>spd-5(wow36[tagrfp-t<sup>3xmyc</sup>::spd-5]) I; gip-1(wow3[gfp<sup>3xflag</sup>::gip-1]) III</i>	This study/(Sallee et al., 2018)
JLF426	<i>spd-5(wow36[tagrfp-t<sup>3xmyc</sup>::spd-5]) I; mzt-1(wow51[gfp<sup>3xflag</sup>::mzt-1]) I</i>	This study
JLF425	<i>spd-5(wow36[tagrfp-t<sup>3xmyc</sup>::spd-5]) I; spd-2(wow60[spd-2::gfp<sup>3xflag</sup>]) I</i>	This study
JLF429	<i>zif-1(gk117); spd-5(wow36[tagrfp-t<sup>3xmyc</sup>::spd-5]) I; sas-4(wow32[zf<sup>3xflag</sup>::sas-4]) III</i>	This study
LP585	<i>lin-5(cp288[lin-5::mNG-C1<sup>3xFlag</sup>]) II</i>	CGC
LP560	<i>dhc-1(cp268[dhc-1::mNG-C1<sup>3xFlag</sup>]) I</i>	CGC
LP563	<i>dnc-1(cp271[dnc-1::mNG-C1<sup>3xFlag</sup>]) I</i>	CGC

365

366

367 **CRISPR/Cas9**

368 Endogenously tagged proteins used in this study were generated using the CRISPR Self  
 369 Excising Cassette (SEC) method that has been previously described (Dickinson et al., 2015).  
 370 DNA mixtures (sgRNA and Cas9 containing plasmid and repair template) were injected into  
 371 young adults, and CRISPR edited worms were selected by treatment with hygromycin followed  
 372 by visual inspection for appropriate expression and localization (Dickinson et al., 2015).  
 373 sgRNA and homology arm sequences used to generate lines are as follows:  
 374

Allele	sgRNA sequence	Homology arm	SEC used
<i>spd-2</i> ( <i>wow60[spd-2::gfp^3xflag]</i> )	cagagaatatttgaaa gtagg (pJM31)	<b>HA1 Fwd:</b> ttgtaaacgacgcccagtcgccggcaGTGTTGAC ATTCGCATCGAC	pDD282
		<b>HA1 Rev:</b> CATCGATGCTCCTGAGGCTCCCGATGCT CCCTTTCTATTCGAAAATCTTGTATTGG	
		<b>HA2 Fwd:</b> CGTGATTACAAGGATGACGATGACAAGA GATAAaatcttaagataactttccaaatattc	
		<b>HA2 Rev:</b> ggaaacagctatgaccatgttatcgatttcctcaatg ccagatgc	
<i>spd-5</i> ( <i>wow36[tagrfp-t^3xmyc::spd-5]</i> )	gaaaacttcgcttaaA <b>TGGAGG</b> (pJM13)	<b>HA1 Fwd:</b> cacgacgttgtaaacgacgcccagtcgacgcaaggaa atcgtcactt	pDD286
		<b>HA1 Rev:</b> CTTGATGAGCTCCTCTCCCTTGGAGACC ATttaacgcaagttttctg	
		<b>HA2 Fwd:</b> GAGCAGAAGTTGATCAGCGAGGAAGAC TTGGAGGATAATTCTGTGCTCAACG	
		<b>HA2 Rev:</b> tcacacaggaacagctatgaccatgttatCTTTCCT CCATTGCATGCTT	
<i>spd-5</i> ( <i>wow52[gfp^3xflag::spd-5]</i> )		<b>HA1 Fwd:</b> acgttgtaaacgacgcccagtcgccggcaacgcaagg aaatcgtcactt	pDD282
		<b>HA1 Rev:</b> TCCAGTGAACAATTCTTCTCCTTTACTCA	

		Tttaacgcgaagtttctg	
		<b>HA2 Fwd:</b> CGTGATTACAAGGATGACGATGACAAGA GAGAGGATAATTCTGTGCTCAACG	
		<b>HA2 Rev:</b> tcacacaggaaacagctatgaccatgttatCTTTCCT CCATTGCATGCTT	
<i>sas-4</i> ( <i>wow32[zf::gfp^3x flag::sas-4]</i> )	<b>GGAAAACA</b> ACTT TGTTCAG (pJF296)	<b>HA1 Fwd:</b> ttgtaaaacgacggccagtcgccggcaaattgtaaaattg gcgccctcaa	pJF250
		<b>HA1 Rev:</b> CATCGATGCTCCTGAGGCTCCCGATGCT CCTTTTTTCCATTGAAACAATGTAGTCT	
		<b>HA2 Fwd:</b> CGTGATTACAAGGATGACGATGACAAGA GATGAgaaattccaacccttt	
		<b>HA2 Rev:</b> ggaaacagctatgaccatgttatcgatttcaagatgctgctc ctggatgt	

375

376

### 377 *Image acquisition*

378 Embryos dissected from one-day old adults were mounted on a pad (3% agarose dissolved in  
379 M9) sandwiched between a microscope slide and no. 1.5 coverslip. Time-lapse images were  
380 acquired on a Nikon Ti-E inverted microscope (Nikon Instruments) equipped with a 1.5x  
381 magnifying lens, a Yokogawa X1 confocal spinning disk head, and an Andor Ixon Ultra back  
382 thinned EM-CCD camera (Andor), all controlled by NIS Elements software (Nikon). Images  
383 were obtained using a 60x Oil Plan Apochromat (NA=1.4) or 100x Oil Plan Apochromat  
384 (NA=1.45) objective. Z-stacks were acquired using a 0.5 μm step every minute. Images were  
385 adjusted for brightness and contrast using ImageJ software.

386

### 387 *Drug treatment*

388 Drug treatments were performed as previously described (Yang & Feldman, 2015). Briefly,  
389 embryos were mounted between a slide and coverslip, supported with 22.5 μM beads  
390 (Whitehouse Scientific), and bathed in an osmotic control buffer (embryonic growth medium –  
391 EGM (Shelton & Bowerman, 1996)) supplemented with either 10% DMSO, 30 μM okadaic  
392 acid, or 60 μM rubratoxin A. Embryos were laser permeabilized at appropriate times using a

393 Micropoint dye laser (coumarin 435nm) mounted on the spinning-disk confocal described  
394 above.

395

#### 396 *RNAi treatment*

397 RNAi treatment was performed by feeding as previously described using *csnk-1*(RNAi), *gpr-*  
398 *1/2*(RNAi), and *let-92*(RNAi) expressing HT115 bacteria from the Ahringer RNAi library  
399 (Ahringer, 2006; Fraser et al., 2000; Kamath et al., 2003). L4 stage worms were grown on  
400 RNAi plates (NGM supplemented with IPTG and Ampicillin) at 25°C for 24h-48h. RNAi plates  
401 were seeded with a bacterial culture grown overnight and subsequently grown 48h at room  
402 temperature protected from light.

403

#### 404 *Image Quantification*

##### 405 *PCM volume measurements*

406 PCM volume was measured from stacks of images taken through the ABp centrosome closest  
407 to the coverslip at each timepoint. Image stacks were first processed to eliminate the cytosolic  
408 background by subtracting the mean intensity of 10 random points in the cytoplasm at each  
409 plane and each timepoint. Image stacks were then thresholded using the Otsu method  
410 (ImageJ) to delimit the PCM structure. Volume measurements were performed using the 3D  
411 object counter imageJ plugin (Bolte & Cordelières, 2006). Only the volume measured at the  
412 centrosome/centrioles was considered.

413

##### 414 *Intensity measurement*

415 Total intensity was measured by defining an image stack 15 µm wide x 7.5 µm deep around  
416 the centrosome for each timepoint. Another stack of the exact same dimensions was  
417 generated in the cytoplasm. Both stacks were sum projected and the total intensity was  
418 measured by subtracting the total intensity of the cytoplasmic sum projection from the total  
419 intensity of the centrosome sum projection. Centrosomal intensity was calculated in the same  
420 way, but the ROI was selected manually following initial thresholding. Packet intensity was  
421 determined by removing a manually selected ROI for the centriole/centrosome. In Figure 5G,  
422 we accounted for the fact that *let-92* depletion results in centriole duplication defects in the one  
423 cell embryo (Song et al., 2011). In control embryos, we determined the average intensity of  
424 each of the two individual centriolar/centrosomal foci of either SPD-2 or SPD-5 at the end of  
425 disassembly ( $t = \sim 5'$ ). We compared this value to the average intensity of the single  
426 centrosomes in *let-92* depleted embryos at the end of disassembly ( $t = \sim 15'$ ). This type of



427 measurement was in contrast to the total centriole/centrosome measurement shown in Figure  
428 5E and F, which does not distinguish the two resulting centrioles/centrosomes in control  
429 conditions at the end of disassembly.

430

#### 431 Timing of events

432 The different steps of disassembly were defined based on hallmarks of both volume and  
433 intensity measurements. 'Dissolution' was defined as the timepoint at which the first decrease  
434 in PCM intensity was detected, which corresponded to a decrease in SPD-2 intensity.

435 'Rupture' was defined as the timepoint at which the first decrease in PCM volume was  
436 detected, which corresponded to a drop in SPD-5 volume. Packet formation was defined as  
437 the timepoint at which individualized foci of SPD-5 appeared around the centrioles.

438

#### 439 Statistics

440 Statistical analyses were performed using R and Prism (GraphPad software, La Jolla, Ca,  
441 USA).

442

443

444 Acknowledgements

445 We thank Kevin O’Connell, Jyoti Iyer, Dan Dickinson, and Bob Goldstein for CRISPR advice  
446 and protocols. We also thank Tim Stearns, Ariana Sanchez, Maria Sallee, Melissa Pickett and  
447 members of the Feldman lab for helpful discussions about the manuscript. Some of the  
448 nematode strains used in this work were provided by the *Caenorhabditis* Genetic Center,  
449 which is funded by the NIH Office of Research Infrastructure Programs (P40 OD010440). This  
450 work was supported by a March of Dimes Basil O’Connor Starter Scholar Research Award and  
451 an NIH New Innovator Award DP2GM119136-01 awarded to J.L.F. J.M. is supported by an  
452 American Heart Postdoctoral Fellowship.

453

454 Author Contributions

455 Conceptualization, J.L.F and J.M.; Methodology, J.M., J.L.F., and J.C.Z.; Formal Analysis,  
456 J.M.; Investigation, J.M., J.L.F., and J.C.Z.; Writing - Original Draft, J.L.F and J.M.; Writing –  
457 Review & Editing, J.L.F and J.M.; Visualization, J.L.F and J.M.; Supervision, J.L.F.; Funding  
458 Acquisition, J.L.F and J.M.

459

460 Competing Interests

461 We have no financial or competing interests to report.

462

## 463 **References**

- 464 Ahringer, J. (2006). Reverse genetics. *WormBook*. <http://doi.org/10.1895/wormbook.1.47.1>
- 465 Bobinnec, Y., Fukuda, M., & Nishida, E. (2000). Identification and characterization of  
466 *Caenorhabditis elegans* gamma-tubulin in dividing cells and differentiated tissues. *Journal*  
467 *of Cell Science*, 113 Pt 21(DECEMBER 2000), 3747–3759.
- 468 Bolte, S., & Cordelières, F. P. (2006). A guided tour into subcellular colocalization analysis in  
469 light microscopy. *Journal of Microscopy*, 224(Pt 3), 213–232. [http://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-](http://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2818.2006.01706.x)  
470 2818.2006.01706.x
- 471 Borrego-Pinto, J., Somogyi, K., Karreman, M. A., König, J., Müller-Reichert, T., Bettencourt-  
472 Dias, M., et al. (2016). Distinct mechanisms eliminate mother and daughter centrioles in  
473 meiosis of starfish oocytes. *The Journal of Cell Biology*, 212(7), 815–827.  
474 <http://doi.org/10.1083/jcb.201510083>
- 475 Brenner, S. (1974). The genetics of *Caenorhabditis elegans*. *Genetics*, 77(1), 71–94.
- 476 Cabral, G., Sans, S. S., Cowan, C. R., & Dammermann, A. (2013). Multiple mechanisms  
477 contribute to centriole separation in *C. elegans*. *Current Biology : CB*, 23(14), 1380–1387.  
478 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2013.06.043>
- 479 Cheng, J., Tiyaboonchai, A., Yamashita, Y. M., & Hunt, A. J. (2011). Asymmetric division of  
480 cyst stem cells in *Drosophila* testis is ensured by anaphase spindle repositioning.  
481 *Development (Cambridge, England)*, 138(5), 831–837. <http://doi.org/10.1242/dev.057901>
- 482 Chichinadze, K., Lazarashvili, A., & Tkemaladze, J. (2012). RNA in centrosomes: Structure  
483 and possible functions. *Protoplasma*, 250(1), 397–405. [http://doi.org/10.1007/s00709-012-](http://doi.org/10.1007/s00709-012-0422-6)  
484 0422-6
- 485 Conduit, P. T., & Raff, J. W. (2010). Cnn dynamics drive centrosome size asymmetry to ensure  
486 daughter centriole retention in *Drosophila* neuroblasts. *Current Biology : CB*, 20(24), 2187–  
487 2192. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2010.11.055>
- 488 Conduit, P. T., Brunk, K., Dobbelaere, J., Dix, C. I., Lucas, E. P., & Raff, J. W. (2010).  
489 Centrioles regulate centrosome size by controlling the rate of Cnn incorporation into the  
490 PCM. *Current Biology : CB*, 20(24), 2178–2186. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2010.11.011>
- 491 Conduit, P. T., Feng, Z., Richens, J. H., Baumbach, J., Wainman, A., Bakshi, S. D., et al.  
492 (2014a). The centrosome-specific phosphorylation of Cnn by Polo/Plk1 drives Cnn scaffold  
493 assembly and centrosome maturation. *Developmental Cell*, 28(6), 659–669.  
494 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.devcel.2014.02.013>

- 495 Conduit, P. T., Richens, J. H., Wainman, A., Holder, J., Vicente, C. C., Pratt, M. B., et al.  
496 (2014b). A molecular mechanism of mitotic centrosome assembly in *Drosophila*. *eLife*, 3,  
497 e03399. <http://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.03399>
- 498 Decker, M., Jaensch, S., Pozniakovsky, A., Zinke, A., O'Connell, K. F., Zachariae, W., et al.  
499 (2011). Limiting amounts of centrosome material set centrosome size in *C. elegans*  
500 embryos. *Current Biology : CB*, 21(15), 1259–1267.  
501 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2011.06.002>
- 502 Dickinson, D. J., Pani, A. M., Heppert, J. K., Higgins, C. D., & Goldstein, B. (2015).  
503 Streamlined Genome Engineering with a Self-Excising Drug Selection Cassette. *Genetics*,  
504 200(4), 1035–1049. <http://doi.org/10.1534/genetics.115.178335>
- 505 Dickinson, D. J., Ward, J. D., Reiner, D. J., & Goldstein, B. (2013). Engineering the  
506 *Caenorhabditis elegans* genome using Cas9-triggered homologous recombination. *Nature*  
507 *Methods*, 10(10), 1028–1034. <http://doi.org/10.1038/nmeth.2641>
- 508 DICTENBERG, J. B., ZIMMERMAN, W., SPARKS, C. A., YOUNG, A., VIDAIR, C., ZHENG, Y., et al.  
509 (1998). Pericentrin and gamma-tubulin form a protein complex and are organized into a  
510 novel lattice at the centrosome. *The Journal of Cell Biology*, 141(1), 163–174.
- 511 ENOS, S. J., DRESSLER, M., GOMES, B. F., HYMAN, A. A., & WOODRUFF, J. B. (2018). Phosphatase  
512 PP2A and microtubule-mediated pulling forces disassemble centrosomes during mitotic  
513 exit. *Biology Open*, 7(1), bio029777. <http://doi.org/10.1242/bio.029777>
- 514 FRASER, A. G., KAMATH, R. S., ZIPPERLEN, P., MARTINEZ-CAMPOS, M., SOHRMANN, M., & AHRINGER,  
515 J. (2000). Functional genomic analysis of *C. elegans* chromosome I by systematic RNA  
516 interference. *Nature*, 408(6810), 325–330. <http://doi.org/10.1038/35042517>
- 517 FRY, A. M., SAMPSON, J., SHAK, C., & SHACKLETON, S. (2017). Recent advances in pericentriolar  
518 material organization: ordered layers and scaffolding gels. *F1000Research*, 6, 1622–10.  
519 <http://doi.org/10.12688/f1000research.11652.1>
- 520 FU, J., & GLOVER, D. M. (2012). Structured illumination of the interface between centriole and  
521 peri-centriolar material. *Open Biology*, 2(8), 120104–120104.  
522 <http://doi.org/10.1098/rsob.120104>
- 523 GODINHO, S. A., & PELLMAN, D. (2014). Causes and consequences of centrosome abnormalities  
524 in cancer, 369(1650), 20130467–20130467. <http://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2013.0467>
- 525 GÖNCZY, P., & ROSE, L. S. (2005). Asymmetric cell division and axis formation in the embryo.  
526 *WormBook*, 1–20. <http://doi.org/10.1895/wormbook.1.30.1>

- 527 Grill, S. W., Gonczy, P., Stelzer, E. H., & Hyman, A. A. (2001). Polarity controls forces  
528 governing asymmetric spindle positioning in the *Caenorhabditis elegans* embryo. *Nature*,  
529 *409*(6820), 630–633. <http://doi.org/10.1038/35054572>
- 530 Hamill, D. R., Severson, A. F., Carter, J. C., & Bowerman, B. (2002). Centrosome maturation  
531 and mitotic spindle assembly in *C. elegans* require SPD-5, a protein with multiple coiled-  
532 coil domains. *Developmental Cell*, *3*(5), 673–684.
- 533 Hannak, E., Oegema, K., Kirkham, M., Gönczy, P., Habermann, B., & Hyman, A. A. (2002).  
534 The kinetically dominant assembly pathway for centrosomal asters in *Caenorhabditis*  
535 *elegans* is gamma-tubulin dependent. *The Journal of Cell Biology*, *157*(4), 591–602.  
536 <http://doi.org/10.1083/jcb.200202047>
- 537 Kamath, R. S., Fraser, A. G., Dong, Y., Poulin, G., Durbin, R., Gotta, M., et al. (2003).  
538 Systematic functional analysis of the *Caenorhabditis elegans* genome using RNAi. *Nature*,  
539 *421*(6920), 231–237. <http://doi.org/10.1038/nature01278>
- 540 Kemp, C. A., Kopish, K. R., Zipperlen, P., Ahringer, J., & O'Connell, K. F. (2004). Centrosome  
541 maturation and duplication in *C. elegans* require the coiled-coil protein SPD-2.  
542 *Developmental Cell*, *6*(4), 511–523. [http://doi.org/10.1016/S1534-5807\(04\)00066-8](http://doi.org/10.1016/S1534-5807(04)00066-8)
- 543 Kitagawa, D., Flückiger, I., Polanowska, J., Keller, D., Reboul, J., & Gönczy, P. (2011). PP2A  
544 phosphatase acts upon SAS-5 to ensure centriole formation in *C. elegans* embryos.  
545 *Developmental Cell*, *20*(4), 550–562. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.devcel.2011.02.005>
- 546 Kotak, S., & Gönczy, P. (2013). Mechanisms of spindle positioning: cortical force generators in  
547 the limelight. *Current Opinion in Cell Biology*, *25*(6), 741–748.  
548 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.ceb.2013.07.008>
- 549 Lawo, S., Hasegan, M., Gupta, G. D., & Pelletier, L. (2012). Subdiffraction imaging of  
550 centrosomes reveals higher-order organizational features of pericentriolar material. *Nature*  
551 *Cell Biology*, *14*(11), 1148–1158. <http://doi.org/10.1038/ncb2591>
- 552 Lin, T.-C., Neuner, A., & Schiebel, E. (2015). Targeting of  $\gamma$ -tubulin complexes to microtubule  
553 organizing centers: conservation and divergence. *Trends in Cell Biology*, *25*(5), 296–307.  
554 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.tcb.2014.12.002>
- 555 Lingle, W. L., Lutz, W. H., Ingle, J. N., Maihle, N. J., & Salisbury, J. L. (1998). Centrosome  
556 hypertrophy in human breast tumors: implications for genomic stability and cell polarity.  
557 *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *95*(6), 2950–2955.
- 558 Lu, Y., & Roy, R. (2014). Centrosome/Cell cycle uncoupling and elimination in the  
559 endoreduplicating intestinal cells of *C. elegans*. *PLoS ONE*, *9*(10), e110958.  
560 <http://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0110958>

- 561 Luksza, M., Queguigner, I., Verlhac, M.-H., & Brunet, S. (2013). Rebuilding MTOCs upon  
562 centriole loss during mouse oogenesis. *Developmental Biology*, 382(1), 48–56.  
563 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.ydbio.2013.07.029>
- 564 Megraw, T. L., Kilaru, S., Turner, F. R., & Kaufman, T. C. (2002). The centrosome is a dynamic  
565 structure that ejects PCM flares. *Journal of Cell Science*, 115(Pt 23), 4707–4718.
- 566 Mennella, V., Agard, D. A., Huang, B., & Pelletier, L. (2014). Amorphous no more:  
567 subdiffraction view of the pericentriolar material architecture. *Trends in Cell Biology*, 24(3),  
568 188–197. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.tcb.2013.10.001>
- 569 Mennella, V., Keszthelyi, B., McDonald, K. L., Chhun, B., Kan, F., Rogers, G. C., et al. (2012).  
570 Subdiffraction-resolution fluorescence microscopy reveals a domain of the centrosome  
571 critical for pericentriolar material organization. *Nature Cell Biology*, 14(11), 1159–1168.  
572 <http://doi.org/10.1038/ncb2597>
- 573 Mikeladze-Dvali, T., Tobel, von, L., Strnad, P., Knott, G., Leonhardt, H., Schermelleh, L., &  
574 Gonczy, P. (2012). Analysis of centriole elimination during *C. elegans* oogenesis, 139(9),  
575 1670–1679. <http://doi.org/10.1242/dev.075440>
- 576 Moteji, F., Velarde, N. V., Piano, F., & Sugimoto, A. (2006). Two phases of astral microtubule  
577 activity during cytokinesis in *C. elegans* embryos. *Developmental Cell*, 10(4), 509–520.  
578 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.devcel.2006.03.001>
- 579 Muroyama, A., Seldin, L., & Lechler, T. (2016). Divergent regulation of functionally distinct  $\gamma$ -  
580 tubulin complexes during differentiation. *The Journal of Cell Biology*, 213(6), 679–692.  
581 <http://doi.org/10.1083/jcb.201601099>
- 582 Novak, Z. A., Wainman, A., Gartenmann, L., & Raff, J. W. (2016). Cdk1 Phosphorylates  
583 *Drosophila* Sas-4 to Recruit Polo to Daughter Centrioles and Convert Them to  
584 Centrosomes. *Developmental Cell*, 37(6), 545–557.  
585 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.devcel.2016.05.022>
- 586 Oakley, B. R., Paolillo, V., & Zheng, Y. (2015).  $\gamma$ -Tubulin complexes in microtubule nucleation  
587 and beyond. *Molecular Biology of the Cell*, 26(17), 2957–2962.  
588 <http://doi.org/10.1091/mbc.E14-11-1514>
- 589 Pihan, G. A. (2013). Centrosome dysfunction contributes to chromosome instability,  
590 chromoanagenesis, and genome reprogramming in cancer. *Frontiers in Oncology*, 3, 277.  
591 <http://doi.org/10.3389/fonc.2013.00277>
- 592 Pihan, G. A., Purohit, A., Wallace, J., Malhotra, R., Liotta, L., & Doxsey, S. J. (2001).  
593 Centrosome defects can account for cellular and genetic changes that characterize  
594 prostate cancer progression. *Cancer Research*, 61(5), 2212–2219.

- 595 Pimenta-Marques, A., Bento, I., Lopes, C. A. M., Duarte, P., Jana, S. C., & Bettencourt-Dias,  
596 M. (2016). A mechanism for the elimination of the female gamete centrosome in  
597 *Drosophila melanogaster*. *Science*, 353(6294), aaf4866–aaf4866.  
598 <http://doi.org/10.1126/science.aaf4866>
- 599 Rose, L., & Gönczy, P. (2014). Polarity establishment, asymmetric division and segregation of  
600 fate determinants in early *C. elegans* embryos. *WormBook*, 1–43.  
601 <http://doi.org/10.1895/wormbook.1.30.2>
- 602 Salisbury, J. L., Lingle, W. L., White, R. A., Cordes, L. E., & Barrett, S. (1999). Microtubule  
603 nucleating capacity of centrosomes in tissue sections. *The Journal of Histochemistry and*  
604 *Cytochemistry : Official Journal of the Histochemistry Society*, 47(10), 1265–1274.  
605 <http://doi.org/10.1177/002215549904701006>
- 606 Sallee, M. D., Zonka, J. C., Skokan, T. D., Raftrey, B. C., & Feldman, J. L. (2018). Tissue-  
607 specific degradation of essential centrosome components reveals distinct microtubule  
608 populations at microtubule organizing centers. *PLoS Biology*, 16(8), e2005189–32.  
609 <http://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.2005189>
- 610 Sanchez, A. D., & Feldman, J. L. (2016). Microtubule-organizing centers: from the centrosome  
611 to non-centrosomal sites. *Current Opinion in Cell Biology*.  
612 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.ceb.2016.09.003>
- 613 Schlaitz, A.-L., Srayko, M., Dammermann, A., Quintin, S., Wielsch, N., MacLeod, I., et al.  
614 (2007). The *C. elegans* RSA complex localizes protein phosphatase 2A to centrosomes  
615 and regulates mitotic spindle assembly. *Cell*, 128(1), 115–127.  
616 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2006.10.050>
- 617 Shelton, C. A., & Bowerman, B. (1996). Time-dependent responses to glp-1-mediated  
618 inductions in early *C. elegans* embryos. *Development*, 122(7), 2043–2050.
- 619 Song, M. H., Liu, Y., Anderson, D. E., Jahng, W. J., & O'Connell, K. F. (2011). Protein  
620 phosphatase 2A-SUR-6/B55 regulates centriole duplication in *C. elegans* by controlling the  
621 levels of centriole assembly factors. *Developmental Cell*, 20(4), 563–571.  
622 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.devcel.2011.03.007>
- 623 Stubenvoll, M. D., Medley, J. C., Irwin, M., & Song, M. H. (2016). ATX-2, the *C. elegans*  
624 Ortholog of Human Ataxin-2, Regulates Centrosome Size and Microtubule Dynamics.  
625 *PLoS Genetics*, 12(9), e1006370. <http://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgen.1006370>
- 626 Tsou, M.-F. B., & Stearns, T. (2006). Mechanism limiting centrosome duplication to once per  
627 cell cycle. *Nature*, 442(7105), 947–951. <http://doi.org/10.1038/nature04985>

- 628 Woodruff, J. B., Gomes, B. F., Widlund, P. O., Mahamid, J., Honigmann, A., & Hyman, A. A.  
629 (2017). The Centrosome Is a Selective Condensate that Nucleates Microtubules by  
630 Concentrating Tubulin. *Cell*, 169(6), 1066–1071.e10.  
631 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2017.05.028>
- 632 Woodruff, J. B., Wueseke, O., & Hyman, A. A. (2014). Pericentriolar material structure and  
633 dynamics. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London. Series B, Biological*  
634 *Sciences*, 369(1650). <http://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2013.0459>
- 635 Woodruff, J. B., Wueseke, O., Viscardi, V., Mahamid, J., Ochoa, S. D., Bunkenborg, J., et al.  
636 (2015). Regulated assembly of a supramolecular centrosome scaffold in vitro. *Science*,  
637 348(6236), 808–812. <http://doi.org/10.1126/science.aaa3923>
- 638 Wueseke, O., Bunkenborg, J., Hein, M. Y., Zinke, A., Viscardi, V., Woodruff, J. B., Oegema,  
639 K., Mann, M., Andersen, J. S., & Hyman, A. A. (2014a). The *Caenorhabditis elegans*  
640 pericentriolar material components SPD-2 and SPD-5 are monomeric in the cytoplasm  
641 before incorporation into the PCM matrix. *Molecular Biology of the Cell*, 25(19), 2984–  
642 2992. <http://doi.org/10.1091/mbc.E13-09-0514>
- 643 Wueseke, O., Bunkenborg, J., Hein, M. Y., Zinke, A., Viscardi, V., Woodruff, J. B., Oegema,  
644 K., Mann, M., Andersen, J. S., & Hyman, A. A. (2014b). The *Caenorhabditis elegans*  
645 pericentriolar material components SPD-2 and SPD-5 are monomeric in the cytoplasm  
646 before incorporation into the PCM matrix. *Molecular Biology of the Cell*, 25(19), 2984–  
647 2992. <http://doi.org/10.1091/mbc.E13-09-0514>
- 648 Wueseke, O., Zwicker, D., Schwager, A., Wong, Y. L., Oegema, K., Jülicher, F., et al. (2016).  
649 Polo-like kinase phosphorylation determines *Caenorhabditis elegans* centrosome size and  
650 density by biasing SPD-5 toward an assembly-competent conformation. *Biology Open*,  
651 5(10), 1431–1440. <http://doi.org/10.1242/bio.020990>
- 652 Yang, R., & Feldman, J. L. (2015). SPD-2/CEP192 and CDK Are Limiting for Microtubule-  
653 Organizing Center Function at the Centrosome. *Current Biology : CB*, 25(14), 1924–1931.  
654 <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2015.06.001>
- 655 Zebrowski, D. C., Vergarajauregui, S., Wu, C.-C., Piatkowski, T., Becker, R., Leone, M., et al.  
656 (2015). Developmental alterations in centrosome integrity contribute to the post-mitotic  
657 state of mammalian cardiomyocytes. *eLife*, 4, 461. <http://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.05563>  
658



659 Figure Legends

660

661 Figure 1. *C. elegans* PCM is organized into two spheres that disassemble using different  
662 behaviors, see also Figure 1 - figure supplement 1, Videos 1 to 4

663 A) Left: Cartoon representing the *C. elegans* 4-cell stage embryo with ABp in red. Right: 7.5 $\mu$ m  
664 z-projection from a live *pie-1p::GFP::TBB-1/β-tubulin* (green); *tagRFP::SPD-5* (red) expressing  
665 embryo showing cell division in ABa and ABp. Note that these cells have a synchronized cell  
666 division and start dividing earlier than EMS or P2. Insets: Enlargement of ABp centrosome  
667 showing microtubules (green) organized around the centrosome (SPD-5, red). Scale bar, 5  
668  $\mu$ m. B) Average pixel intensity profile across the ABp centrosome at NEBD: *GFP::GIP-1*  
669 (orange, n=18), *GFP::SPD-5* (red, n= 18), *GFP::MZT-1* (blue, n= 21), *SPD-2::GFP* (green, n=  
670 21), *GFP::SAS-4* (black, n=19). Bold line represents the mean, dotted lines represent standard  
671 error of the mean (s.e.m.). C) Average width of pixel intensity profile for each protein in B.  
672 *GIP-1*: 1.69 $\pm$ 0.04 $\mu$ m, n=18; *SPD-5*: 1.66 $\pm$ 0.03 $\mu$ m, n= 18; *MZT-1*: 1.44 $\pm$ 0.03 $\mu$ m, n= 21; *SPD-2*:  
673 1.15 $\pm$ 0.02 $\mu$ m, n= 21; *SAS-4*: 0.51 $\pm$ 0.06 $\mu$ m, n= 19. D) Cartoon representing the organization of  
674 the centrosome based on the boundary of *SAS-4* (black, “centriole”), *SPD-2* (dark blue, “inner  
675 sphere”), and *SPD-5* (purple, “outer sphere”. E) Time-lapse analysis of the disassembly of  
676 each protein analyzed in B, C and D starting at NEBD (t=0 min) and imaged every minute for 9  
677 minutes. Scale bar, 10 $\mu$ m.

678

679

680 Figure 2. The PCM fragments into SPD-5 and GIP-1 containing packets that localize dynamic  
681 microtubules  
682 A-B) Analysis of colocalization of SPD-5 packets (red) with GIP-1 (A, green), or microtubules  
683 (B, TBA-1/ $\alpha$ -tubulin, green) in early packets (left panels) or late packets (right panels). C)  
684 Three second time projection of EBP-2 (green) showing that packets (SPD-5, red) associate  
685 with dynamic microtubules. Magenta arrows represent the orientation of EBP-2 movement.  
686 Scale bar, 10 $\mu$ m. D) Colocalization of SPD-5 packets (red) with SPD-2 (green). Note that SPD-  
687 2 does not localize to the packets. E) Average pixel intensity of SPD-2 (green, n=8), SPD-5  
688 (red, n=11), and GIP-1 (orange, n=8) in early and late packets. 'a.u.' = arbitrary units. Graph  
689 represent mean  $\pm$  s.e.m.

690 Figure 3. Loss of SPD-2 and MZT-1 precedes rupture and packet formation, see also Video 5  
691 A-C) Comparison of tagRFP::SPD-5 (red) to SPD-2::GFP (A, green), GFP::MZT-1 (B, green),  
692 GFP::GIP-1 (C, green) disassembly. 'Dissolution' (light grey arrow) begins as SPD-2 (t=2 min.  
693 post-NEBD) and then MZT (t=3 min post-NEBD) are removed from the centrosome. 'Rupture'  
694 (medium grey arrow) is indicated by holes appearing in the matrix of SPD-5 and GIP-1  
695 surrounding the centrioles, followed by the appearance of individual 'packets' (dark grey arrow)  
696 of SPD-5 and GIP-1. Scale bar, 10 $\mu$ m. D-E) Average pixel intensity (D) and volume (E) at the  
697 centrosome of PCM proteins during disassembly starting at NEBD (t=0 min): tagRFP::SPD-5  
698 (red, n= 11), GFP::GIP-1 (orange, n=9), GFP::MZT-1 (sky blue, n= 10), SPD-2::GFP (green,  
699 n= 8). 'a.u.' = arbitrary units. Graph lines indicate mean  $\pm$  s.e.m.  
700  
701

702 Figure 4. Cortical forces rupture the PCM into packets, see also Figure 4 – figure supplement 1  
703 and supplement 2

704 A) Time-lapse analysis starting at NEBD (t=0 min) of the disassembly of endogenous  
705 tagRFP::SPD-5 (red) and SPD-2::GFP (green) treated with lacZ(RNAi) (control, top panels,  
706 grey (A-E)), *gpr-1/2*(RNAi) (middle panels, blue (A-E)), or *csnk-1*(RNAi) (bottom panels, purple  
707 (A-E)). Scale bar, 10µm. B-C) Average volume at the centrosome of SPD-5 (B) or SPD-2 (C)  
708 during disassembly starting at NEBD (t=0 min). D) Average onset time for centriole separation  
709 starting at NEBD (t=0 min). Stage 1: Centrioles are apparent as a single focus and then double  
710 foci of GFP::SAS-4. Stage 2: Centrioles appear >1 µm apart. control, Stage 1: 5.00±0.218 min;  
711 control, stage 2: 6.429±0.202 min, n=8; *gpr-1/2*(RNAi), Stage 1: 9.091±0.977 min, *gpr-*  
712 *1/2*(RNAi), Stage 2: 12.100±0.706 min, n=11; *csnk-1*(RNAi), Stage 1: 4.714±0.286 min, *csnk-*  
713 *1*(RNAi), Stage 2: 5.714±0.421 min, n=7. E) Average intensity of SPD-2 or SPD-5 remaining at  
714 the centrosome before regrowth in the next cell cycle. SPD-2(control): 1281±139, SPD-  
715 5(control): 1337±47, n=8; SPD-2(*gpr-1/2*(RNAi)): 1610±166, SPD-5(*gpr-1/2*(RNAi)): 3173±369,  
716 n=11; SPD-2(*csnk-1*(RNAi)): 1467±122, SPD-5(*csnk-1*(RNAi)): 1172±110, n=7. Asterisks  
717 indicate comparison between indicated perturbation and control: \*p-value < 0.01, \*\* p-value <  
718 0.001, \*\*\* p-value < 0.0001. 'a.u.' = arbitrary units. Graphs indicate mean ± s.e.m.

719 Figure 5. PP2A phosphatases regulate PCM disassembly

720 A) Time-lapse analysis of embryos expressing *pie-1p::mCherry::TBA-1/α-tubulin* (red) and  
721 endogenous *GFP::GIP-1* (green) and treated at anaphase (t=0 min) with DMSO (left panels),  
722 30 μM okadaic acid (middle panels), or 60 μM rubratoxin A (right panels). Scale bar, 10μm.  
723 B-D) Time-lapse analysis of the disassembly of endogenous *tagRFP::SPD-5* (red); *SPD-*  
724 *2::GFP* (green) starting from cytokinetic furrow ingression (t=0 min) in the one cell embryo as  
725 represented on the cartoon below. Timing of rupture (light gray arrow) and packet formation  
726 (dark gray arrow) are indicated. Images show posterior (P) embryonic region (black dotted box  
727 in cartoon) containing the posterior centrosome (red dot in cartoon). Embryos are treated with  
728 *lacZ*(RNAi) (control, B), *let-92*(RNAi) (C), or *let-92*(RNAi) + *gpr-1/2*(RNAi) (D). Note the  
729 appearance of *SPD-2* in packets (C, magenta arrowheads) following *let-92* RNAi treatment.  
730 Scale bars, 10μm. E-F) *SPD-2* (E) or *SPD-5* (F) intensity at the centrosome during  
731 disassembly starting from cytokinetic furrow ingression (t=0 min) in embryos treated with  
732 *lacZ*(RNAi) (control, grey, n=8), *let-92*(RNAi) (orange, n=8), or *let-92+gpr-1/2*(RNAi) (navy,  
733 n=8). *SPD-2* disassembly slope (E, 0 to 4min, black dotted lines): control (slope= $-2.31e^{+6}$ ,  
734  $r^2=0.97$ ), *let-92*(RNAi) (slope= $-8.60e^{+5}$ ,  $r^2=0.94$ ) and *let-92+gpr-1/2*(RNAi) (slope= $1.67e^{+5}$ ,  
735  $r^2=0.86$ ). *SPD-5* disassembly slope (F, 2 to 4min, black dotted lines): control (slope= $-5.65e^{+6}$ ,  
736  $r^2=0.95$ ), *let-92*(RNAi) (slope= $-7.46e^{+5}$ ,  $r^2=0.92$ ) and *let-92+gpr-1/2*(RNAi) (slope= $-4.40e^{+5}$ ,  
737  $r^2=0.91$ ). Slopes are significant different from each other using a t-test, p-value < 0.0001. G)  
738 Average centrosomal pixel intensity at the end of disassembly in control (t =  $5.2 \pm 0.2$  min,  
739 grey, n=15) and in *let-92*(RNAi) (t =  $12.1 \pm 0.9$  min, orange, n=13) treated embryos. Note that  
740 we accounted for centriole duplication defects following *let-92* depletion by comparing the  
741 average intensity of each individual centriole/centrosome in control embryos (see two *SPD-2*  
742 foci representing two individual centrioles/centrosomes, light blue arrowheads at t = 5' in  
743 Figure 5B) to intensity of the single centrosome in *let-92* depleted embryos (single *SPD-2*  
744 focus, light blue arrowhead at t = 15' in Figure 5C; see Material and Methods). Asterisks  
745 indicate comparison between indicated perturbation and control: \*p-value < 0.01, \*\* p-value <  
746 0.001, \*\*\* p-value < 0.0001. 'a.u.' = arbitrary units. Graphs indicate mean  $\pm$  s.e.m.

747

748

749

750

751

752

## Supplemental Information

### Supplemental Figure Legends

#### **Figure 1-figure supplement 1. Methods for quantifying PCM width**

A) The width of each PCM protein was determined using the same image analysis pipeline. Image stacks of about 30 images separated by 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  z-steps (15 $\mu\text{m}$  total) were acquired at NEBD using the same imaging parameters. Stacks were then cropped to include only the ABp cell and centered around the ABp centrosome closest to the coverslip. We found the max intensity ABp centrosome slice and created a new 30 $\mu\text{m}$  wide substack centered around this slice  $\pm 7$  slices (15 slices, 7 $\mu\text{m}$  total). The max intensity slice was then used to find the centroid of the centrosomal structure. This slice was thresholded using the half max intensity and the centroid value was obtained using the Analyze Particle tool (ImageJ). Using the coordinates of the centroid (X,Y) and the max intensity (Z), we created a 15 $\mu\text{m}$  wide substack centered on those coordinates  $\pm 7$  slices. The intensity profile was obtained by drawing a 10 $\mu\text{m}$  long line centered on the centroid. Profiles for each embryo were compiled and for each of them the width was determined by measuring the distance at the half max intensity. B) Mean projection of all max projections used in the study for measuring protein width.

#### **Figure 4-figure supplement 1. Cortical forces affect SPD-5, but not SPD-2, intensity and regrowth in the next cell cycle**

Total SPD-5 (A) or SPD-2 (B) intensity at the centrosome during disassembly starting at NEBD (t=0 min) in embryos treated with lacZ(RNAi) (control, grey), *gpr-1/2*(RNAi) (blue), or *csnk-1*(RNAi) (purple). \*p-value, *gpr-1/2*(RNAi) or *csnk-1*(RNAi) vs. control < 0.05. \*\* p-value, *gpr-1/2*(RNAi) or *csnk-1*(RNAi) vs. control < 0.01. C) Average time after NEBD before regrowth of SPD-5 at the centrosome in the next cell cycle. Control: 9.69 $\pm$ 0.33, n=8; *gpr-1/2*(RNAi): 11.27 $\pm$ 0.45, n=11; *csnk-1*(RNAi): 9.67 $\pm$ 0.29, n=7. \*\*\*p-value, control or *csnk-1*(RNAi) vs. *gpr-1/2*(RNAi), < 0.0001. 'a.u.' = arbitrary units. Error bars indicate standard deviation of the mean.

#### **Figure 4-figure supplement 2. Localization of cortical force generating proteins and astral microtubules during PCM disassembly.**

A-C) Time lapse analysis of single plane images from 4-cell embryos expressing endogenous LIN-5::mNG (A), DNC-1::mNG (B) and DHC-1::mNG (C). D) Single plane image of the ABp cell division starting at NEBD (t=0 min) in an embryo expressing endogenous DHC-1::GFP. Movement of DHC-1 from the centrosome (red arrow and dotted circle) toward the dorsal membrane (white arrowheads) is

apparent. E) Time lapse analysis of embryo expressing *pie-1::TBB-2/β-tubulin::GFP* starting at NEBD (t= 0 min, left panel) and 5 min (middle panel) and 6 min (right panel) after. Scale bars, 10μm.

### Video Legends

**Video 1.** Centrosome disassembly in the ABp cell in a 4-cell embryo expressing endogenous *SPD-2::GFP*. Scale bar, 5μm.

**Video 2.** Centrosome disassembly in the ABp cell in a 4-cell embryo expressing endogenous *GFP::MZT-1*. Scale bar, 5μm.

**Video 3.** Centrosome disassembly in the ABp cell in a 4-cell embryo expressing endogenous *GFP::SPD-5*. Yellow arrowhead and 'c' mark the centrioles. White arrowhead and 'p' mark the packets. Scale bar, 5μm.

**Video 4.** Centrosome disassembly in the ABp cell in a 4-cell embryo expressing endogenous *GFP::GIP-1*. Yellow arrowhead and 'c' mark the centrioles. White arrowhead and 'p' mark the packets. Scale bars, 5μm.

**Video 5.** Centrosome disassembly in the ABp cell in a 4-cell embryo expressing endogenous *tagRFP-T::SPD-5; GFP::GIP-1*. Yellow arrowhead and 'c' mark the centrioles. White arrowhead and 'p' mark the packets. Scale bars, 5μm.

















