

Supplementary File 5: Full description of all the cell-cell interaction given in main text. All interactions are referenced in Appendix 1. Melanocytes, xanthophores, loose iridophores, dense iridophores and xanthoblasts are denoted  $M$ ,  $X$ ,  $I^l$ ,  $I^d$ ,  $X^b$  respectively. C1, C2 stands for cell 1, cell 2, where C1 =  $X$ ,  $X^b$  is the target cell and cell 2 is the signalling cell with corresponding signal range (R) that is either short (S), up to 0.04mm, or long (L), 0.12mm. This signal generates action (A) of cell type C1 of: movement (M), differentiation (D), proliferation (P) or survival (S) of type (T). For action (D) or (S), type (T) is denoted '+' if the resultant action is promotion of action A and '-' if the resultant action is inhibition of action (A). For action (M), type (T) is denoted '+' if the resultant action is attraction towards cell type C1 and '-' if the resultant action is repulsion away from cell type C1. \*Melanocytes can also differentiate randomly, independent of any other cell type.

C1	C2	A	R	T	Basis of assumption	Details	Ref.
$I^l$	$M$	S	-	-	Adult <i>pfe</i> , <i>shd</i> , <i>nac</i> and WT fish.	$I^l$ are typically spaced at a distance from each other.	[1]
$X$	$M$	S	+	+	WT fish development.	Arrival of $I^d$ leads to compaction of $X$ overlaying this region.	[2]
$I^d$	$X$	M	S	+	Adult <i>pfe</i> , <i>shd</i> , <i>nac</i> and WT fish.	$X$ and $I^d$ are highly associated with each other.	[1]
$M$	$M$	S	S	-	Long term imaging of WT fish	$M$ appear to migrate to dense $I^d$ free zones.	[3]
$I^d$	$M$	S	S	-	Adult <i>pfe</i> , <i>shd</i> , <i>nac</i> and WT fish.	$I^d$ are typically not associated with $M$ .	[1]
$X$	$M$	S	S	+	Cultured WT $M$ and $X$ .	<i>In vitro</i> , $X$ extended pseudopodia towards $M$ which they then followed towards $M$ .	[4]
$M$	$X$	S	S	-	Regeneration experiments performed <i>in vivo</i> on WT fish	When $X$ in close proximity to $M$ in the pale interstripes, $M$ move out of interstripe, versus when the $X$ in close proximity to $M$ are ablated. Then $M$ are less likely to leave the interstripe region.	[5]
$M$	$X^b$	M	L	+	Long term imaging of WT fish	$X^b$ in stripes exhibit airnemes which attach to $M$ activating Delta-Notch signalling and resulting in the consolidation of $M$ into stripes.	[6, 7]
$I^d$	$M$	D	S	-	Observations of WT fish.	$M$ typically differentiate in $I^d$ free zones.	[3]
$I^d$	$M$	D	L	+	Observations of <i>pfe</i> mutants and WT	$M$ differentiation is associated with one stripe width distance away from the central strip of $I^d$ .	[1]
$X$	$M$	D	S	-	Regeneration experiments <i>in vivo</i> on WT fish.	$M$ and $X$ compete to differentiate in the S range.	[4]
$X$	$M$	S	L	+	Regeneration experiments <i>in vivo</i> on WT fish.	Increased $M$ death when $X$ ablated from neighbouring pale interstripes.	[4, 8]
$X$	$M$	S	S	-	Regeneration experiments <i>in vivo</i> on WT fish.	When $X$ in close proximity to $M$ , some $M$ die versus when $X$ in close proximity to $M$ are ablated, no $M$ die.	[5, 9]
$X$	$M$	D	L	+	Regeneration experiments <i>in vivo</i> on WT fish.	$M$ regeneration proportional to neighbouring pale interstripe X number.	[4, 8]

C1	C2	A	R	T	Basis of assumption	Details	Ref.
$M$	$M$	D	L	-	Regeneration experiments <i>in vivo</i> on WT fish.	$M$ regeneration negatively proportional to $M$ at half a stripe width distance.	[4]
$M$	$M$	S	L	-	Regeneration experiments <i>in vivo</i> on WT fish.	$M$ regeneration negatively proportional to $M$ at half a stripe width distance (when $X$ ablated from neighbouring inter-stripes).	[4]
$I^l$	$M$	S	S	+	Observations of <i>pfe</i> fish.	We predict that loose S-iridophores promote $M$ survival as this would account for the aggregates of $M$ s observed in <i>pfe</i> .	[10, 1]
*	$M$	D			Observation of double mutant <i>nac;pfe</i> fish.	<i>nac;pfe</i> are unable to generate $X$ s or iridophores, yet readily generate $M$ .	[1]
$X^b$	$I^d$	D	S	+	S-iridophore expression studies.	$I^d$ express xanthogenic Colony stimulating factor-1 (Csf1) which is essential for $X^b$ differentiation.	[3, 1, 11]
$X^b$	$X$	P	S	+	Regeneration experiments <i>in vivo</i> on WT fish.	$M$ and $X$ compete to differentiate in the short range.	[4]
$X^b$	$M$	D	S	-	Regeneration experiments <i>in vivo</i> on WT fish.	$M$ and $X$ compete to differentiate in the short range.	[4]
$X$	$I^d$	P	S	+	S-iridophore expression studies.	$I^d$ express xanthogenic Colony stimulating factor-1 (Csf1) which is essential for $X$ proliferation and survival.	[3, 1, 11]
$X$	$M$	P	S	-	Regeneration experiments <i>in vivo</i> on WT fish.	$M$ and $X$ compete to differentiate in the short range.	[4]
$X$	$X$	P	S	+	Regeneration experiments <i>in vivo</i> on WT fish.	$M$ and $X$ compete to differentiate in the short range.	[4]
$X$		P			Clonal analyses of $X$ lineage.	$X$ and $X^b$ observed to proliferate at a rate of approximately 1/week.	[2]
$X^b$		P			Clonal analyses of $X$ lineage.	$X$ and $X^b$ observed to proliferate at a rate of approximately 1/week.	[2]

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