Patterns of Gene Expression in Animal Development and Evolution

Pavel Tomančák

Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics, Pfotenhauerstraße 108, 01307 Dresden, Germany tomancak@mpi-cbg.de

Regulation of gene expression is one of the hallmarks of development of multicellular organisms. My group has been collecting data on patterns of gene expression in Drosophila on a genome wide scale. We developed genome editing technologies to label arbitrary Drosophila proteins in vivo and imaging technologies to visualize them in living animal in various physiological and developmental contexts. We also invested a lot of effort in developing extensible, scalable and generalizeable image analysis tools for big microscopy data relevant in particular for light sheet microscopy. All datasets, reagents, hardware and software are disseminated using open access principles. We use these technologies to study the interplay between gene regulatory networks and morphogenesis in developing embryos employing a comparative approach. I will give an overview of the technologies and their applications for developmental biology research.