



The doublecortin-family kinase ZYG-8^{DCLK1} regulates microtubule dynamics and motor-driven forces to promote the stability of *C. elegans* acentrosomal spindles

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The microtubule-associated kinase ZYG-8 tunes forces within the oocyte spindle

Assembling a bipolar spindle in oocytes is essential for successful reproduction, yet how these structures form is poorly understood. This study identified crucial roles for a microtubule-associated kinase, ZYG-8, in forming and stabilizing the *C. elegans* oocyte spindle, demonstrating that this protein helps to tune spindle forces. Shown are an experimentally-generated monopolar spindle (top left), and monopolar spindles in oocytes lacking ZYG-8 (green = microtubules; white = chromosomes). When ZYG-8 is depleted, outward forces are activated, resulting in sorting of microtubule minus ends (magenta) to the periphery of the monopolar spindle (top right) or restoration of spindle bipolarity (bottom).

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