

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT	5
INTRODUCTION	7
The Goodrich synthesis	9
PART 1	
METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES AND PROBLEMS; ON WHAT CRITERIA HAVE HEAD SEGMENTS BEEN IDENTIFIED?	13
1. HEAD CAVITIES	13
a) Are head cavities a consistent feature throughout the vertebrates?	13
b) The nature of head cavities; how do head cavities relate to mesodermal organization as a whole?	14
c) Is there a fourth "terminal" preotic segment?	16
<i>Conclusions and remaining problems</i>	16
2. SOMITOMERES	17
BOX 1: A review of aspects of somitogenesis consistent with the somitomere concept	17
a) Long-standing problems in comparing numbers of head segments across species	21
b) The Meier-Jacobson scheme and its problems	22
c) Are preotic segment numbers stable across species?	24
<i>Conclusions and remaining problems</i>	25
3. MOLECULAR AND GENETIC CRITERIA	26
a) Domains of <i>Hox</i> gene molecular expression support the Goodrich model	26
b) Is the head mesoderm involved?	27
c) The complex problem of causality	29
d) Models of spatial assignment	31
<i>Conclusions and remaining problems</i>	32
COMMENTS ON METHODS	33
a) Molecular compared to morphological criteria	33
BOX 2: The role of segmentation	34
BOX 3: Somites control segmental organization in surrounding tissues	36
b) The sufficiency of morphological criteria	36
INTRODUCTION TO PART 2	38
1. The segmental homology problem	38
2. "Dual organism" theories	38
PART 2	
A NEW, COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF THE COMPARATIVE DATA	40
Objectives of this presentation	40
Mode of presentation	40
BOX 4: Fate maps	40
COMMENTARIES ON TAXA	41
a) Model types	41
Urodeles and other amphibians	41

<i>Conclusions</i>	44
Lampreys	45
<i>Conclusions</i>	46
b) Examples of some variants	47
Large yolked amphibians	47
Myxinooids	48
<i>Conclusions</i>	48
c) Explanations for groups where sufficient data on preotic mesoderm are lacking	49
Teleosts	49
<i>Conclusions</i>	49
Selachians	50
Amniotes	51
<i>Conclusions</i>	51
d) Possible ancestral forms	51
SUMMING UP THE CASE FOR MESODERMAL SEGMENTS IN THE HEAD	52
GENERAL CONCLUSIONS	54
INTRODUCTION TO PARTS 3 AND 4	73
PART 3	
TOWARDS DEFINING THE DISTINCTIVE FEATURES OF THE HEAD	74
a) The effects of head protrusion and cephalic flexure	76
b) The dynamics of the ventral midline of the head	76
c) Overall features and consequences of head extension	77
<i>Summation and implications</i>	78
PART 4	
METHODOLOGICAL AND EVOLUTIONARY IMPLICATIONS	81
1. METHODOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS	81
a) The inevitability of the causal involvement of mechanics	81
b) The limitations of molecular-level analyses	83
2. INFERRING EVOLUTIONARY ORIGINS:	
CONCEPTUAL CONSIDERATIONS AND PROBLEMS	84
a) Segmentation in the rostral head is probably fundamental	84
<i>Conclusions</i>	85
b) The likely dominance of somitic segmentation in the ancestral head	86
<i>Conclusions</i>	87
c) Is PM the most rostral and therefore the most ancient segment?	88
<i>Conclusions</i>	89
d) A possible scenario for the evolution of the vertebrate head	89
<i>Conclusions</i>	90
e) Is an evolutionary scenario for the ancestral origins of the chordate Bauplan possible?	90
<i>Conclusions</i>	92
SUMMATION	93
NOTES	94
REFERENCES	128