



Cover: The ability of the fish lateral line system to detect flow depends on the mechanics of sensory organs called superficial neuromasts. McHenry and van Netten (pp. 4244–4253) examined these mechanics by measuring the flexural stiffness of superficial neuromasts like the one pictured here (left circle) from the trunk of a 4 mm long zebrafish larva (*Danio rerio*). They found that hair cell kinocilia within the neuromast stiffen the structure such that it behaves like a two-part beam (right circle) with a stiff base and flexible tip. Therefore, the number and height of kinocilia within a neuromast should greatly influence its sensitivity.

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