# SIZE CONTROL IN PLANTS



## **RIKEN PSC**

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Keith Roberts at the north Norfolk coast



# SIZE CONTROL IN PLANTS

- 1. Genetic dissection of cell-size control in plants.
- 2. Molecular characterisation of the link between cell size and ploidy.
- 3. Genetic dissection of organ-size control in plants.

## How do plants control cell/organ size?





#### Diploid (2C)

Tetraploid (4C)

Yield has depended on polyploidisation events.

Examples: wheat, sugar beet, potato, coffee, banana, cotton, alfalfa



but not necessarily with organ size...

Cells increase ploidy levels through endoreduplication.



Ploidy level: 2C, 4C

Ploidy level: 2C, 4C, 8C, ..., >32C

#### Many cell types endoreduplicate in Arabidopsis.



Galbraith et al (Plant Phys 1991)

#### Many cell types endoreduplicate in Arabidopsis.



Galbraith et al (Plant Phys 1991)

#### Arabidopsis leaf cells endoreduplicate up to 16C.



Melaragno (Plant Cell 1993)



#### Arabidopsis root cells endoreduplicate up to 16C.





#### Arabidopsis hypocotyl cells



Arabidopsis hypocotyl cells

- Moth wing epithelium -



- Drosophila salivary glands -







#### polytene chromosomes

1024C

- Mouse trophoblast giant cell (TGC) in placenta development-



## application potential: endoreduplication in plants

endosperm development (e.g. maize)



<sup>(</sup>Larkins 2001)

■ fruit development (e.g. tomato)



(Tanksley 2004)

#### symbiosis (e.g. medicago)



(Kondorosi 2004)

#### **General questions**

- How do cells switch from the mitotic cell cycle to the endocycle?
- How do genetic and environmental cues influence the endocycle transition?
- Does endocycling utilise the same cell cycle machinery as the mitotic cycle?
- How does an increase in ploidy through endoreduplication link with cell differentiation/cell expansion?

## How do plants control cell/organ size?



Our genetic approach: size mutants in Arabidopsis

1. hyp6,7/rhl1-3/bin3-5

--- Christian Breuer, Nicola Stacey

- 2. high ploidy 1-4 (hpy1-4) --- Takashi Ishida, Sumire Fujiwara
- 3. full-length cDNA over-expression (FOX) lines

--- Christian Breuer, Ayako Kawamura

## hyp/rhl/bin display similar dwarf phenotypes.







hypocotyl 6 (hyp6) hypocotyl 7 (hyp7) root hairless 1 (rhl1) root hairless 2 (rhl2) root hairless 3 (rhl3)



In collaboration with Herman Hofte, Joanne Chory (Curr Bio 2002, PNAS 2005, Plant Cell 2007) brassinosteroid insensitive 3 (bin3) brassinosteroid insensitive 4 (bin4) brassinosteroid insensitive 5 (bin5)

## *hyp/rhl/bin* have reduced cell size phenotypes.





## *hyp/rhl/bin* are defective in endoreduplication.



**DNA** level

## *hyp/rhl/bin* are defective in endoreduplication.

WT

#### hyp6



Ploidy level < 32C

Ploidy level < 8C

DAPI-stained nuclei in trichomes

## HYP/RHL/BIN are required for endoreduplication.



#### Two distinct cellular mechanisms to increase ploidy





In collaboration with Yoshitaka Azumi

Bypassing endocycle defects by colchicine treatment can partially rescue the cell size phenotype in *hyp/rhl/bin*.



Raising nuclear DNA content can partially rescue the organ size phenotype in *hyp/rhl/bin*.



#### hyp/rhl/bin are dwarfs but have nearly normal flowers.

#### 30-day-old plants



#### Flowers and siliques



#### Seeds



HYP/RHL/BIN are all topoisomerase VI subunits.

ROOT HAIRLESS 2 (RHL2) BRASSINOSTEROID INSENSITIVE 5 (BIN5) HYPOCOTYL 6 (HYP6) ROOT HAIRLESS 3 (RHL3) BRASSINOSTEROID INSENSITIVE 3 (BIN3)

HYPOCOTYL 7 (HYP7) ROOT HAIRLESS 1 (RHL1)

BRASSINOSTEROID INSENSITIVE 4 (BIN4)

= New TOP6 subunit

=

TOP6A

TOP6B

= New TOP6 subunit

(Curr Bio 2002, PNAS 2005, Plant Cell 2007)

#### Predicted role of DNA topoisomerase VI: decatenation



## Predicted model of the plant topo VI complex



# RHL1 and BIN4 have weak homology to the C-terminus of mammalian topo $\text{II}\alpha.$



TOPO II is required for the mitotic cell cycle but not for the endocycle.



#### Topo II is involved in the mitotic cell cycle.



4-week-old callus induced from roots

How do cells switch from the mitotic cell cycle to the endocycle?



How do cells switch from the mitotic cell cycle to the endocycle?



Inze and De Veylder (2006)

Auxin gradients control the transition from the mitotic cell cycle to the endocycle in the meristem.



(Ishida et al, Development in press)

Exogenously applied auxin blocks the endocycle progression.

#### Control







14-day-old 1<sup>st</sup> true leaves

#### Cellular auxin signalling is mediated by the TIR-AUX/IAA-ARF pathway.



(Vanneste and Friml 2009)

# Reduced levels of auxin signalling promote the endocycle.



#### Reduced levels of auxin signalling promote the endocycle.



14-day-old cotyledons

## Reduced levels of auxin transport promote the endocycle.



14-day-old cotyledons

Blocking auxin signalling with an auxin antagonist BH-IAA converts mitotic cells into endocyling cells.



Arabidopsis MM2d culture cells PEO-IAA from Kenichiro Hayashi

In collaboration with Masaaki Umeda (NAIST)

Blocking auxin signalling with an auxin antagonist BH-IAA converts mitotic cells into endocyling cells.



Control

\* >24C nuclei (13%, n=240)

MM2d culture cells, 5 days after BH-IAA treatment

Masaaki Umeda (NAIST)

The *axr3-1* mutations result in an early onset of endocyling and accompanying cell expansion in the root meristem.



6-day-old roots, nuclei visualised by DAPI staining

## Transient reduction of auxin signalling induces early endocycling.



DAPI-stained nuclei in 6-day-old roots

## Transient reduction of auxin signalling induces early cell expansion.

40 °C



G WT(Col) E HS:axr3-1 HS:axr3-1 +heat +heat -heat 

#### 6-day-old roots

Takashi Ishida

#### Auxin antagonists promote an early onset of endocycling.

DMSO

+ PEO-IAA 10μM



6-day-old roots, nuclei visualised by Histone2B-YFP PEO-IAA from Kenichiro Hayashi

Reduced levels of auxin signalling rapidly block the expression of cell cycle genes.



6-day-old roots treated with 20mM PEO-IAA for 3hr

In collaboration with Masaaki Umeda (NAIST)

Reduced levels of auxin signalling rapidly block the expression of cell cycle genes.



(\* P > 0.05)

6-day-old roots treated with 20mM PEO-IAA for 3hr

# The expression of CYCA2;3 partially suppresses PEO-IAA-induced cell differentiation.



6-day-old roots; 1-day-treatment with  $\beta$ -estradiol (inducer)

Auxin gradients control the transition from the mitotic cell cycle to the endocycle in the meristem.



(Ishida et al, Development in press)

HPY2 acts downstream of PLT to promote the mitotic cycle and to repress the endocycle transition.



(Ishida et al, Plant Cell 2009)

#### How do HPY2 and GTL1 contribute to the size control?



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