FOKUS Life Sciences Single cell methods to study ion-transport in plant cells





Comparison of movements in animals and plants





https://www.research-news.org/2020/10/05/how-the-venus-flytrap-counts/

Comparison of movements in animals and plants



Plants





Osmotically driven movements









Light-induced stomatal opening in tobacco leaves





Stomata enable uptake of CO₂ and release of water vapor to the atmosphere



The development of stomata was important for land plant evolution





Light-induced stomatal opening in Asplenium scolopendrium





Control of stomatal movements

- 1. Biophysical background of stomatal movements.....
- 2. Voltage clamp with double barreled electrodes...
- 3. ABA and anion channels
- 4. Ca²⁺-signals and ABA response.....





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Uptake of K⁺ is facilitated by K⁺-channels, but K⁺ channels do not determine the direction of K⁺ flow



Activation of H⁺-ATPases drives the uptake of K⁺



Opening of anion channels causes the extrusion of K⁺



Light stimulates stomatal opening



Ion uptake during stomatal opening



Ion release during stomatal closure



Guard cell anion channels control stomatal movements

- 1. Biophysics of stomatal movements......
- 2. Voltage clamp with double barreled electrodes....
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Impalement experiments with double barreled micro electrodes



Recording the free running membrane potential (E_m)



Recording the free running membrane potential (E_m)





The Axon guide 3rd edition, Molecular devices

Measuring the free-running membrane potential:

The resistance of the amplifier has to be much higher (approximately 100 times), as the series resistance of the electrode and cell membrane.

Light-induced membrane potential changes



Kollist et al., 2014

Two-electrode voltage clamp technique



The Axon guide 3rd edition, Molecular devices

Conventional voltage clamp experiments are carried out with two electrodes, since the electrode resistance (ME1 and ME2) are unknown and can change during the experiment.

Voltage clamp with double barreled micro electrodes



Light-induced membrane current changes (V_m = -100 mV)



Light-induced membrane current changes (V_m = -100 mV)



Light-induced membrane current changes (V_m = -100 mV)



Voltage-clamp pulses to test ion channel activity



Guard cell anion channels control stomatal movements

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Abscisic acid-induced stomatal closure



Real time 30 min.



ABA-induced membrane potential changes in guard cells



ABA activates S-type anion channels in guard cells



Marten et al. Plant Phys. 2007

Voltage clamp with double barreled micro electrodes



Two S-type anion channels are active in guard cells



Electrical responses of a guard cell to the stress hormone ABA



Levchenko et al. PNAS, 2005

ABA-dependent activation of SLAC1 and SLAH3



What is the role of the cytosolic free Ca²⁺ concentration in ABA-responses?



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guard_cell (Jan2020)

Guard cell anion channels control stomatal movements

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Loading of guard cells with fluorescent dyes



Fluorescence based Ca²⁺-measurements with FURA2



Roger Tsien 1952-2016 Nobel prize 2008





BAPTA

FURA2

The excitation spectrum of changes when FURA2 binds Ca²⁺



Mechanically-induced changes in the cytosolic [Ca²⁺]

Excitation 355 nm



Excitation 380 nm





Mechanically-induced changes in the cytosolic [Ca²⁺]

Excitation 355 nm



Excitation 380 nm



FURA2 ratio



In Vicia faba, ABA activates S-type anion channels independent of cytosolic Ca²⁺ signals



Cytosolic Ca²⁺ signals detected with fluorescent proteins



Cytosolic Ca²⁺ signals measured with R-GECO1



cpEGFP was replaced by mApple red FP and fluorescence properties were enhanced **Zhao et al., Science 2011**





Arabidopsis plants generated by: M. Krebs, R Waadt and K. Schumacher, University of Heidelberg

ABA-induced Ca²⁺ signals in guard cells Shouguang Huang, New Phytologist 2019





Imaging of cytosolic [Ca²⁺] simultaneously with R-GECO1mTurquoise and FURA2





Collaboration with Rainer Waadt, Univ. of Heidelberg Huang et al., New Phytologist, 2019

In most guard cells ABA causes Ca²⁺ signals during stomatal closure



Huang et al., New Phytologist, 2019

Are ABA-induced Ca²⁺ signals due to changes in the osmotic value of the cytosol, during stomatal closure?



In 1 to 4 guard cells ABA causes Ca²⁺ signals before stomatal closure



Huang et al., New Phytologist, 2019

Are Ca²⁺ signals important for ABA-induced stomatal closure?



Huang et al., unpublished data

ABA neither triggers stomatal closure, nor Ca²⁺ signals in guard cells of the *ost1* mutant





Ca²⁺ signals enhance guard cell responses to Abscisic Acid (ABA), but are not required for stomatal closure



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guard_cell

ABA-dependent activation of SLAC1 and SLAH3



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