

1 **Transduction of mechanical cellular oscillation by the plasma-membrane**
2 **mechanosensitive channel MSL10**

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26 **Abstract**

27 Throughout their life, plants are submitted to recurrent cyclic mechanical loading due to wind.
28 The resulting passive oscillation movements of stem and foliage is an important phenomenon
29 for biological and ecological issues such as photosynthesis optimization¹⁻³ and thermal
30 exchange⁴. The induced motions at plant scale are well described and analyzed, with
31 oscillations at typically 1 to 3 Hz in trees⁵⁻¹⁰. However, the cellular perception and transduction
32 of such recurring mechanical signals remains an open question. Multimeric protein complexes
33 forming mechanosensitive (MS) channels embedded in the membrane provide an efficient
34 system to rapidly convert mechanical tension into electrical signal¹¹. Here we show that the
35 plasma membrane mechanosensitive channel MscS-LIKE 10 (MSL10) from the model plant
36 *Arabidopsis thaliana* responds to pulsed membrane stretching with rapid activation and
37 relaxation kinetics in the range of one second. Under sinusoidal membrane stretching MSL10
38 presents a greater activity than under static stimulation and behaves as a large bandpass
39 oscillation “follower” without filtering the signal in the range of 0.3 to 3 Hz. With a localization
40 in aerial organs naturally submitted to oscillations, our results suggest that the mechanosensitive
41 channel MSL10 represents a molecular component of a universal system of oscillatory
42 perception in plants.

43

44 **Main**

45 In animals, transduction of vibrational stimulation is achieved through MS channels in organs
46 with specialized structures, such as the ear in which the different frequencies are spatially
47 separated¹², or by the organ motion as in touch sensation¹³. In plants, such specialized features
48 have not yet been reported, and it remains unclear whether and how MS channels participate in
49 the perception of oscillatory stimuli. To investigate this question, we studied MSL family
50 members, homologues of the Mechanosensitive channel of Small conductance (MscS) from *E.*

51 *coli*^{14,15}, as they are found in all land plant genomes¹⁶. We have focused our study on MSL10,
52 the most widely expressed, plasma membrane-localized and functionally characterized member
53 in *Arabidopsis thaliana*^{17,18}.

54

55 To characterize the response of *Arabidopsis* to wind mechanical stimulation, we
56 examined the frequency of free oscillations of plant with young flowering stem subjected to a
57 short air pulse (supplementary movie 1). Using the Vibration Phenotyping System
58 (<https://vimeo.com/213665517>)¹⁹, we determined the image correlation coefficient depicting
59 the pendulum movement of the stem on 6 plants and obtained a mean frequency of 2.8 ± 1.0 Hz
60 (mean \pm SD, n=131) (Fig. 1a). This frequency is inside the one excited by the wind²⁰. Then, to
61 determine whether MSL10 localization is compatible with a function as oscillation sensor, we
62 characterized its expression pattern on plants at a flowering stage. GUS reporter driven by
63 *MSL10* promoter was present in stem and leaf vasculature and at the root tip (Fig. 1b, c)¹⁷.
64 This expression pattern of *MSL10*, especially at the junction between roots and shoots, which
65 experience the major tension induced by leaves and stem motion, is an expected location for
66 probing the motion induced by the wind (Fig. 1d).

67

68 Channel kinetic properties are crucial for its ability to perceive oscillatory stimulation
69 at various frequencies. In order to know how fast MSL10 responds to rapid variations in
70 membrane mechanical tension, we characterized the kinetics of this channel using the patch-
71 clamp technique. To specifically monitor MSL10 activity in its endogenous environment, we
72 expressed the *MSL10* gene in protoplasts from a quintuple mutant ($\Delta 5$) lacking the activity of
73 five *MSL*-encoding genes (*mssl4;mssl5;mssl6;mssl9;mssl10*). This provides a low background to
74 record mechanically-activated currents from *MSL10*-expressing protoplasts ($\Delta 5+MSL10$)¹⁷ by

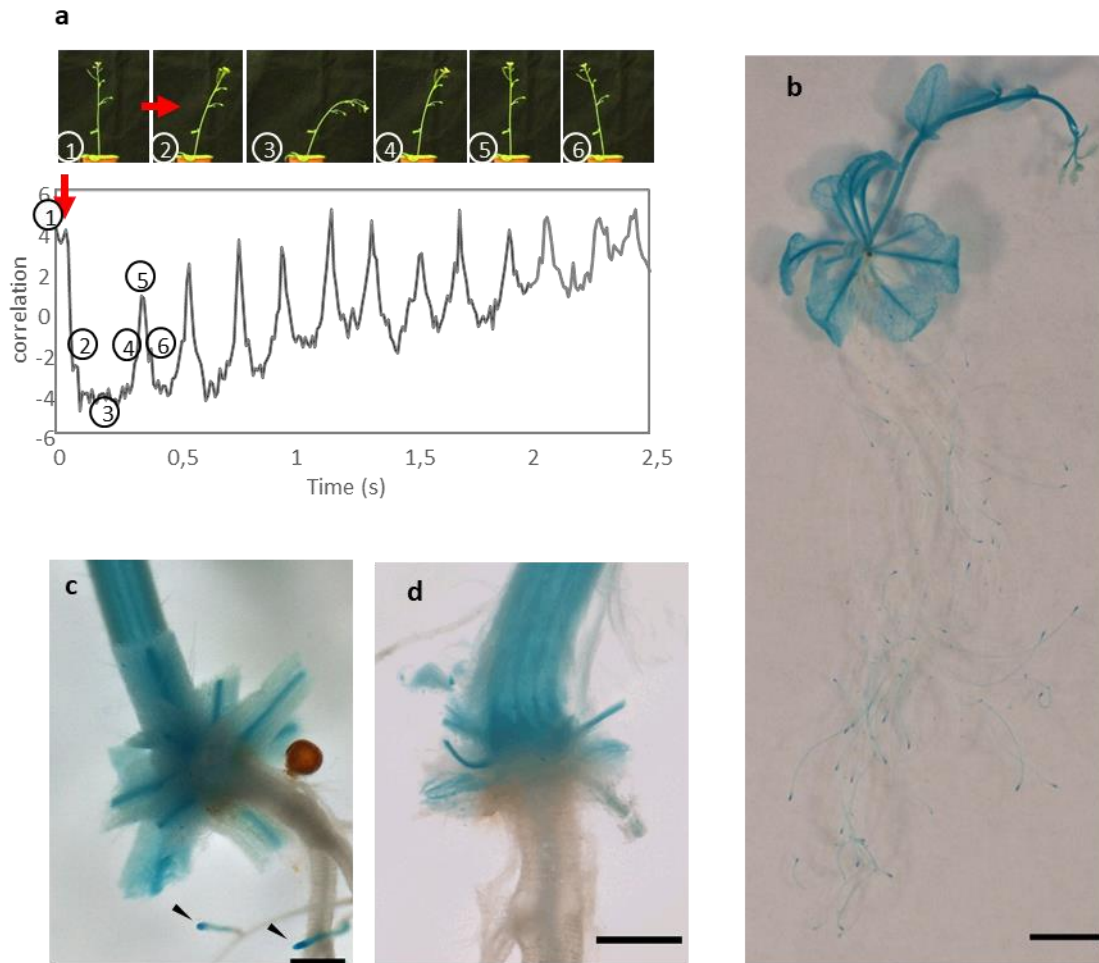


Figure 1 | Oscillatory movement and *MSL10* expression pattern in aerial part of *Arabidopsis* plants. **a**, Images of the oscillatory movement of the stem induced by an air pulse of 60 ms, the correlation coefficient curve visualize the oscillating and the damping of the stem movement (red arrow: air pulse), **b-d** Blue staining represents the β -glucuronidase (GUS) activity driven by the promoter of *MSL10*. The *MSL10* promoter drives expression of the reporter gene **a**, in the root tip (indicated by arrows in **c**) and throughout vasculature of the leaves and stem, **c**, at the bottom of leaf petioles and **d**, in the root-stem junction (**d** is the same view as **c**, with petioles entirely removed). Scale: **b**, 5mm; **c** and **d**, 500 μ m..

75 applying pulses of pressure whilst monitoring transmembrane currents at a constant voltage (-
76 186mV) on a membrane excised patch in outside-out configuration (Fig. 2a). At this
77 physiologically relevant membrane potential, opening of a single stretch-activated channel
78 caused a current variation of 19.4 ± 1.7 pA (Fig. 2a, n=14) as reported in root protoplasts
79 expressing *MSL10*^{17,21}. The sustained activity under the membrane tension of *MSL10* without
80 inactivation clearly distinguishes it from the plasma membrane rapidly activated calcium MS
81 channel activity (RMA), which displays rapid inactivation^{22,23}. We observed that the activation

82 of MSL10 current increased exponentially in response to pressure, with time constants τ_{act}
83 ranging from 1000 ms at 30 mmHg to 200 ms at 100 mmHg (Fig. 2b and Supplementary Fig.
84 1, n = 15). The current-pressure relationship representing the MSL10 channel sensitivity to
85 membrane tension was well described by a Boltzmann function with a pressure for half-

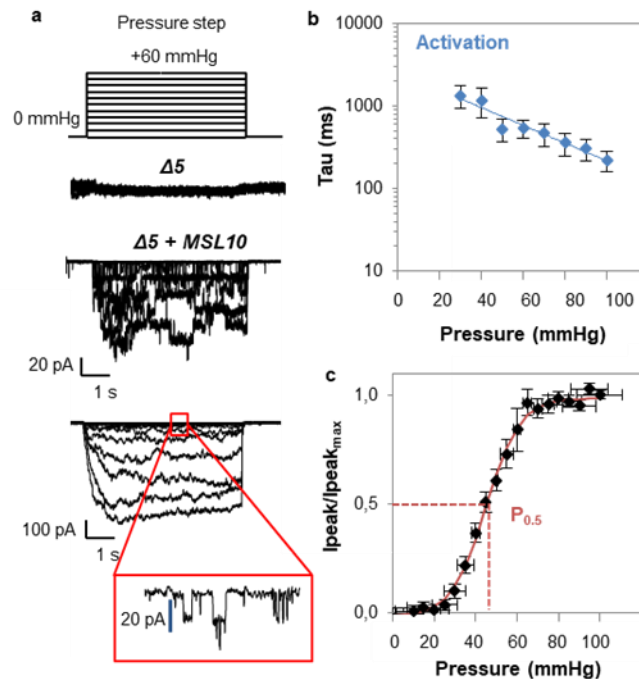


Figure 2 | Gating kinetics and pressure dependence of MSL10 in native membrane. **a**, Quintuple mutant ($\Delta 5$) stimulated by increasing pressure steps in outside-out patch configuration shows no mechanically activated current. $\Delta 5$ mutant expressing MSL10 ($\Delta 5 + MSL10$) shows currents stimulated in outside-out configuration by increasing pressure steps with slow activation kinetics. The current amplitude varies from one patch to another depending on channel density (expression of the protein). Single channel amplitude shows current transitions of 19.4 ± 1.7 pA at -186 mV (n = 14 protoplasts). **b**, Pressure dependence of activation time constant for MSL10 channel in excised outside-out-patch configuration (see Extended Data Fig. 1). Results are normalized with the $P_{0.5}$ of each patch and data represent mean \pm S.E.M (n = 15 protoplasts). **c**, I_{max} normalized current–pressure relationship of stretch-activated currents in excised outside-out-patch configuration in $\Delta 5 + MSL10$, fitted with a Boltzmann equation. $P_{0.5}$ of 49.3 ± 3.4 mmHg is the average value determined for individual cells. Data represent mean \pm S.E.M (n = 15 protoplasts).

The membrane potential is clamped at -186 mV. MSL10 protein is transiently expressed in quintuple *m_{sl}4*;*m_{sl}5*;*m_{sl}6*;*m_{sl}9*;*m_{sl}10* mutant ($\Delta 5$) protoplasts. Ionic conditions are described in the Materials and Methods.

86 activation ($P_{0.5}$) of 49.3 ± 3.4 mmHg, an activation threshold of about 30 mmHg and a saturation
87 pressure of about 70 mmHg (Fig.2c and Supplementary Fig. 2a-c).

88 We then examined the effect of oscillatory membrane tension on MSL10 channel
89 activity. To do so, MSL10 activity was recorded under oscillating pressures at a wide range of
90 frequencies from 0.3 to 30 Hz (supplementary movie 2, Fig. 3a). Whatever the frequency tested,
91 opening events occurred almost exclusively during the upper phase of the period ($\geq 80\%$ of
92 cases) (Fig. 3b, Supplementary Fig. 3). At low frequency (≤ 1 Hz), at least one opening
93 transition of the channel was triggered during each period, (Fig. 3c, 100% of cases), at 3 Hz 70
94 % of the periods triggered channel opening, while at 30 Hz only 20% of the periods were
95 efficient (Fig 3c and Supplementary Fig. 3). Thus, the channel does not open randomly in
96 response to oscillatory stimulations, even when some pressure pulses at 3 Hz and beyond were
97 not efficient to trigger the channel opening (Supplementary Fig. 4).

98 We then undertook a comparison between static and oscillatory stimuli for a same
99 applied “mean-pressure” using a protocol alternating the two types of stimulations (see Fig.
100 3d). A static stimulation held at “mean-pressure” was applied for 1 min followed by a sinusoidal
101 pressure stimulation of $+15/-15$ mmHg from the mean-pressure baseline at a given frequency
102 for 1 min (Fig. 3d). This protocol was repeated to sweep frequencies from 0.3 to 30 Hz and then
103 from 30 to 0.3 Hz, always with the same mean-pressure, in order to determine the effect of
104 frequencies on channel activity compared to that under prior static stimulation (Fig. 3d). Figure
105 3e-g shows the relative effect of frequencies (ratios oscillatory/static) on channels $NP(o)$, τ_{open}
106 and τ_{close} on at least 5 membrane patches.

107 A ratio ($NP(o)_{osc} / NP(o)_{stat}$) above 1 indicates a greater activity of the channel under
108 sinusoidal stimulation than under static stimulation. We observed that at each frequency, the
109 $NP(o)$ ratio is significantly greater than one, meaning that the mean open probability is
110 significantly higher upon dynamic than static stimulation, while the pressure applied was on
111 average the same (Fig. 3e; red asterisks, Mann-Whitney Rank Sum Test, $p \leq 0.05$). The highest
112 ratios are observed at low frequency (0.3, 1 and 3 Hz) corresponding to the frequencies of plant

113 oscillation measured in Figure 1a (Fig. 3e, green asterisks, Mann-Whitney Rank Sum Test,

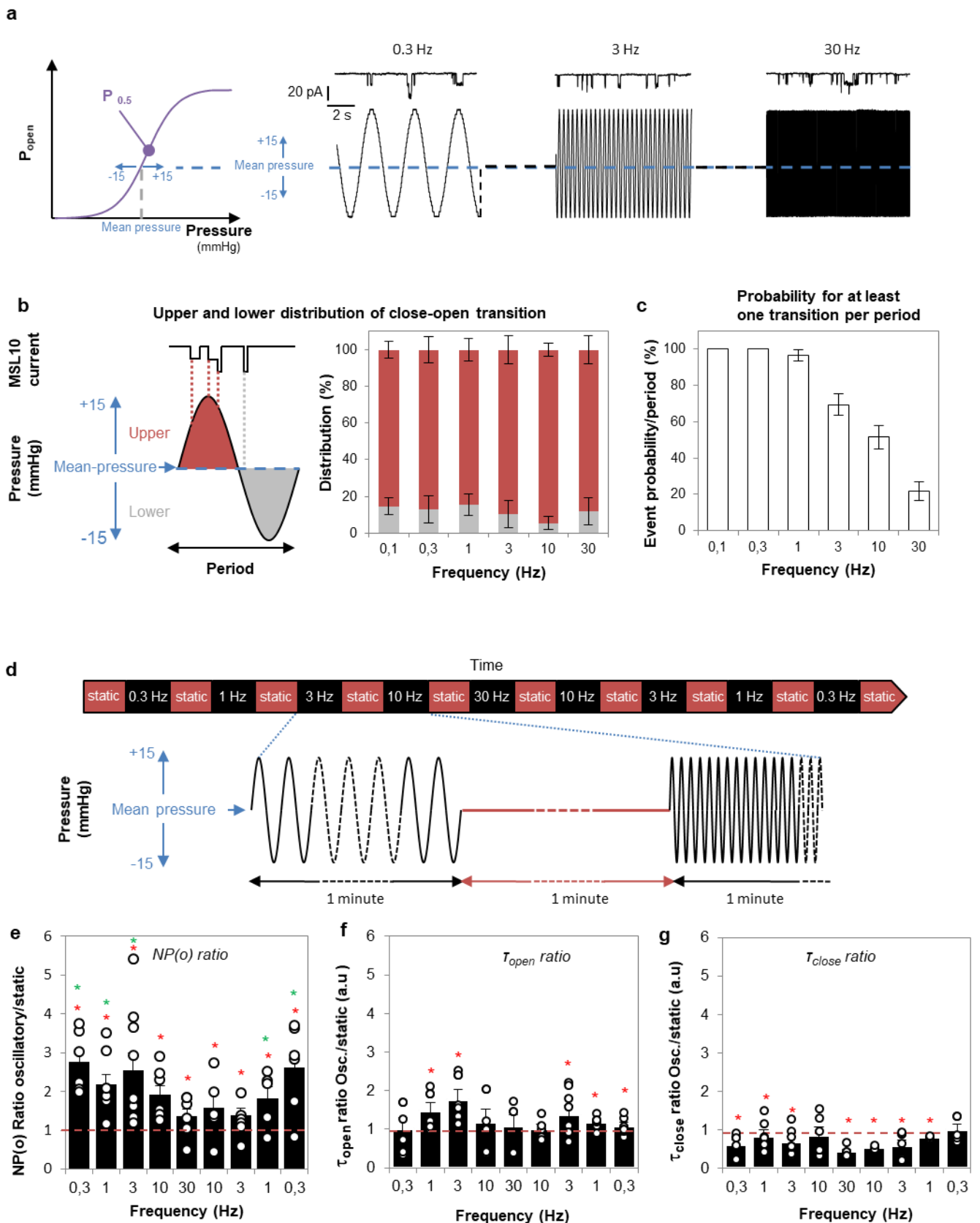


Figure 3 | Effect of oscillatory pressure stimulation on MSL10 channel characteristics.

a, Representative recording of single channel activity of MSL10 in excised outside-out-patch configuration, in response to oscillatory pressure stimulation at 0.3 Hz, 3 Hz and 30 Hz. An oscillatory pressure of +15/-15 mmHg from a mean pressure is applied. **b**, *Left*, Idealized MSL10 current used for event analysis in response to oscillatory pressure. *Right*, Distribution of close-open transitions (at least one) elicited at upper (red bars) or lower (light grey bars) pressure as a function of frequency for 15 seconds of loading. Results represent mean \pm S.E.M ($n \geq 5$ protoplasts). **c**, Probability that MSL10 channel undergoes at least one close-open transition per period as a function of frequency. Results represent mean \pm S.E.M ($n \geq 5$ protoplasts). **d**, Sequences of 1 min oscillatory pressure alternating with 1 min static pressure are performed on excised outside-out-patches over time. The oscillatory stimulation (same protocol for Supplementary Fig. 6a-c) is of 30 mmHg amplitude (+15/-15 mmHg from a mean-pressure level) with a sweep of frequencies from 0.3 to 30 Hz (--), while static stimulation is at mean-pressure (--). **e-g**, Relative effect of frequency (oscillatory/static mean-pressure) on **e**, open probability $NP(o)$, **f**, open state time constant and **g**, closed state time constant. The red dashed line represents the relative ratio static/static (=1). Each point represents each biological replicate ($n \geq 5$ for a given frequency); asterisk in red (*) indicates in **e**, **f** and **g** that mean value is significantly different from 1 (Mann-Whitney Rank Sum Test, $p < 0.05$), asterisk in green (*) in **e** indicates mean $NP(o)$ is significantly different from mean $NP(o)$ obtained at 30 Hz (Mann-Whitney Rank Sum Test, $p < 0.05$).

We have determined $NP(o)_{osc}$ for each oscillatory sinusoidal pressure frequency (0.3 to 30 Hz) and $NP(o)_{stat}$ for each static stimulation prior to frequency stimulation. In 3b we present the ratio $NP(o)_{osc}/NP(o)_{stat}$ called $NP(o)$ Ratio. The same principle is applied for T_{open} ratio and T_{close} ratio in 3c and d. Other conditions same as Fig. 2.

114 $p \leq 0.05$). The asymmetry observed in $NP(o)$ distribution for decreasing and increasing
115 frequencies (Fig. 3e and supplementary Fig.5a) likely reflect the diminution of the active
116 channels over time of the experiment. Supplementary Figure 5 exemplifies the effect of
117 frequencies on $NP(o)$, τ_{open} and τ_{close} obtained for a representative recording. Under oscillatory
118 stimulation $NP(o)$ increased, τ_{open} were unchanged while τ_{close} were decreased compared to the
119 static stimulation. In order to further quantify the opening and closing oscillation dependency
120 of MSL10, we compared open and close time constants obtained on five patches, either under
121 static or dynamic conditions. We measured a mean open time constant in static condition of
122 τ_{open} static = 14.7 ± 1.9 ms ($n \geq 5$). This time constant is not or weakly affected by oscillatory
123 stimulation with a τ_{open} oscillation relative to static above 1 (Fig. 3f). The mean close time
124 constant τ_{close} decreased significantly from τ_{close} static = 164.5 ± 24.8 ms to τ_{close} oscillation =
125 106.4 ± 17.6 ms (all frequencies, $n \geq 5$). This is reflected by the ratios τ_{close} OSC/ τ_{close} stat lower

126 than 1 (Fig. 3g), pointing to the fact that MSL10 spends less time in the closed state due to an
127 increase in their opening probability upon oscillatory stimuli.

128 Mammalian Piezo1 and Piezo2 have been reported as pronounced frequency filters¹³, thus
129 allowing transduction of repetitive mechanical stimuli at a given frequency. This was attributed
130 to their strong inactivation. In MSL10, we didn't observe a strong inactivation, but still we
131 observed a clear oscillation dependence in a wide range of frequencies. We tested if this may
132 come from the channel natural kinematic of opening and closing as a function of the tension.
133 To do so, we implemented a two-states model (see Material & Methods), which fits well our
134 data despite its lack of explicit frequency dependency (Fig. 4a). We observe an oscillatory
135 dependence of the response, as the model predicts a higher NP(o) ratio between oscillatory and
136 static pressure at low frequency than at high frequency.

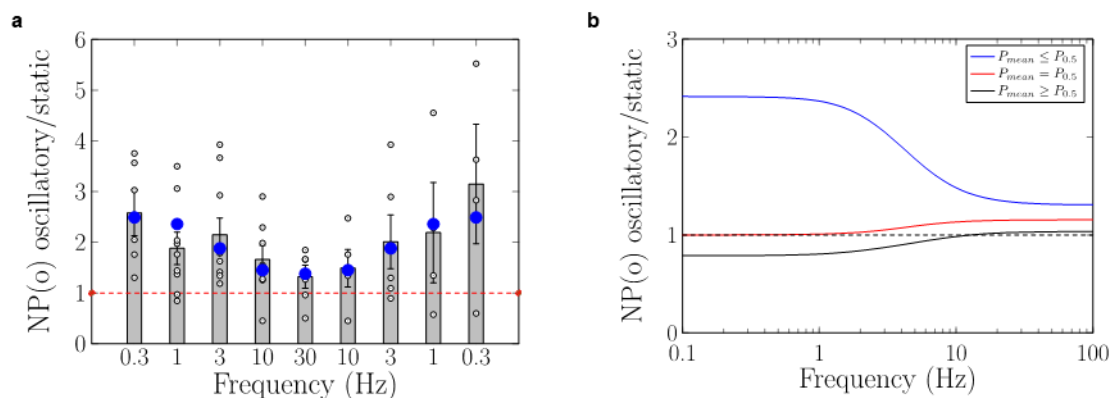


Figure 4 | Modelling of MSL 10 channel as a classical double state system. The channel is modelled as an 2 states (open-close) system, with rates classically changing exponentially with the applied pressure. No specific frequency dependence is introduced. **(a)** Adjustment of the model to experimental data. Model predictions (blue circles) are superimposed over data from Fig. 4e. **(b)** Prediction of the NP(o) ratio between oscillatory/static mean-pressure for different initial mean-pressure, using the same parameters. Blue: parameters obtained from the experiment (mean-pressure 7.6mmHg below $P_{0.5}$). Red: mean-pressure taken as $P_{0.5}$. Black: mean-pressure increased by 7.6mmHg with respect to $P_{0.5}$.

137 The low frequency response of the channel can be explained physically by the non-linear
138 response of the channel to static pressures (the Boltzmann curve). As the mean-pressure is
139 below $P_{0.5}$, an increase in pressure will open more channels than the same decrease in pressure.

140 Thus, it is expected that at low frequencies the ratio is greater than one. Choosing an initial
141 mean-pressure exactly at $P_{0.5}$ will have symmetrized the effects of the increase and decrease in
142 pressure leading to a ratio of 1 (see Fig. 4b). Similarly, starting from a pressure above $P_{0.5}$ will
143 have led to a decrease of the ratio. The reliability of this model raises two questions: at which
144 frequencies the channel is solicited in vivo and what is the mean pressure applied to the
145 membrane in vivo? The free oscillations of Arabidopsis around 3 Hz that we have measured
146 (Fig. 1a) are within the range of low frequencies presented in the model for which oscillatory
147 stimulations are more efficient than static one (Fig. 4b), and are well described by the Boltzman
148 response. For the mean pressure applied in vivo, one should expect to have two contributions:
149 a baseline due to the turgor pressure, and one due to the mean bending during the plant
150 oscillation, proportional to the amplitude of the plant oscillations. Thus, for a plant in rest
151 condition, not submitted to wind loading, the MSL10 channel is expected to be in the very low
152 domain of solicitation of the Boltzmann curve (Fig. 2c) for which the channel is closed. At low
153 amplitudes of oscillation, corresponding to a solicitation in the domain of the Boltzmann below
154 $P_{0.5}$, the channel will be more active under movement than during an equivalent static bending
155 and thus will transduce oscillation into cellular ion fluxes. At high amplitude of oscillation,
156 corresponding to a domain above $P_{0.5}$ on the Boltzmann curve, the channel will be less active
157 during oscillation than during a static bending. This might represent a homeostatic behavior
158 amplifying channel activity at low amplitude but decreasing channel activity at large amplitude.

159 At high frequency, we predict ratio larger than 1, whatever the initial mean-pressure. This effect
160 is due to higher pressure sensitivity for opening than for closing the channel, but is harder to
161 explain intuitively. Interestingly, the characteristic frequency, at which the channel changes
162 from one regime to the other one, doesn't seem to depend on the mean-pressure. This effect on
163 the channel observed for mechanical stimulation at frequency higher than 10 Hz is difficult to
164 rely to a cellular physiological function.

165 Our finding also raises the question on how oscillations occurring at the scale of the plant organ
166 could be relayed at the scale of the cell membrane. We know that a mechanical stimulation, in
167 order to be efficient (in term of physiological response), should produce a tissue/cell
168 deformation^{24,25}. In previous study on Arabidopsis²⁶, sinusoidal sweep excitation, mimicking
169 wind, combined with high-speed imaging allowed us to estimate several modal frequencies and
170 the corresponding spatial localizations of deformation. The spatial localizations of the
171 deformation are compatible with the localizations in the plant of MSL10 as measured here (Fig.
172 1b). Therefore, to link membrane and organ scales we propose a qualitative model in which
173 tissue/cell deformation induced by mechanical oscillations would induce local membrane
174 tension able to trigger MSL10 channel. However, a full assessment of this hypothesis requires
175 working out the full “localization/distribution/intensity” of the membrane stretching or
176 tensions.

177

178 **Conclusion**

179 In plants, the functions of plasma membrane-located MSLs are unknown, with the exception of
180 MSL8 which was shown to be involved in pollen hydration²⁷. This is particularly surprising for
181 MSL10 as it is the most studied member of the MSL family. Actually, MSL10 was shown to
182 induce cell death, but this effect was found to be separable from its mechanosensitive ion
183 channel activity²⁸. In the present study we provide compelling evidences supporting that
184 MSL10 acts not only as a classical transducer of sustained force but also as a transducer able to
185 translate mechanical oscillations. With a selectivity in favor of anions^{17,18} the stretch-activated
186 channel MSL10 is a potent actor of the plasma membrane depolarization. Thus, solicitation of
187 MSL10 via mechanical stress delivered as sustained or even more efficiently as repetitive load
188 to the membrane is a favorable situation to initiate electrical signaling.

189 This study supports that MSL10 might represent a molecular component of a system of
190 oscillatory perception in plants. Our findings open new avenues for studying the molecular
191 mechanisms involved in perception of oscillations that allows environmental adaptation.

192

193 **Methods**

194 **Histology**

195 Transgenic *Arabidopsis* lines used for histochemical studies and carrying the *pMSL10::GUS*
196 promoter-reporter gene fusion were obtained previously¹⁷. In order to perform detection of
197 β -glucuronidase (GUS) activity on whole plant, plants were grown on agar plate. In this
198 culture condition, mature plants with flowering stem have a reduced height of ~4 cm and are
199 suitable for staining. Tissue was fixed for 30 min in ice-cold 90% acetone, then incubated
200 overnight at 37°C in 0.5 μ g/mL 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indoyl β -glucuronic acid, 100mM
201 NaPO₄ (pH 7), 0.1% Triton X-100, 5 mM potassium ferricyanide, and 10mM EDTA.
202 Samples were then dehydrated through an ethanol series and photographed with a camera or
203 with a Nikon AZ100 MultiZoom macroscope (objective: AZ-Plan Apo 1X NA 0.1 WD 35
204 mm (Nikon)).

205 **Callus initiation and maintenance**

206 *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Col-0 accession) surface-sterilized seeds were sown on “initiation
207 medium” containing 4.3 g/L Murashige and Skoog salts (MS, Sigma-Aldrich), 2% sucrose,
208 10 mg/L myo-inositol, 100 μ g/L nicotinic acid, 1 mg/L thiamine-HCl, 100 μ g/L pyridoxine-
209 HCl, 400 μ g/L glycine, 0.23 μ M kinetin, 4.5 μ M 2,4-D, 1% Phytigel (pH 5.7). For callus
210 generation, seeds were cultured in a growth chamber for 15 days. Calli were then transferred
211 onto “maintenance medium” containing 4.3 g/L MS salts (Sigma-Aldrich), 2% sucrose, 10
212 mg/L myo-inositol, 100 μ g/L nicotinic acid, 1 mg/L thiamine-HCl, 100 μ g/L pyridoxine-

213 HCl, 400 $\mu\text{g/L}$ glycine, 0.46 μM kinetin, 2.25 μM 2,4-D, 1% phytigel, (pH 5.7), and sub-
214 cultured every 15 days onto fresh “maintenance medium”.

215 **Protoplast isolation and transient transformation**

216 Calli from *Arabidopsis* were digested for 15 min at 22 °C under hyperosmotic conditions (2
217 mM CaCl_2 , 2 mM MgCl_2 , 1 mM KCl, 10 mM MESs (pH 5.5), 0.2 % cellulysine (Calbochem),
218 0.2 % cellulase RS (Onozuka RS, Yakult Honsha Co.), 0.004 % pectolyase Y23 (Kikkoman
219 Corporation), 0.35 % Bovine Serum Albumin (Sigma) and mannitol to 600 mOsmol. For
220 enzyme removal, the preparation was washed twice with 2 mM CaCl_2 , 2 mM MgCl_2 , 10 mM
221 MES (pH 5.5), and mannitol to 600 mOsmol. For protoplast liberation, the preparation was
222 incubated with 2 mM CaCl_2 , 2 mM MgCl_2 , 10 mM MES (pH 5.5), and mannitol to 280
223 mOsmol. Filtering the suspension (through a 80 μm nylon mesh) yielded protoplasts. For
224 transient expression, protoplasts were co-transformed as described by Haswell et al. (2008)¹⁷.
225 Silent protoplasts obtained from quintuple mutant ($\Delta 5$) *Arabidopsis* calli were co-transformed
226 with 2.5 μg 35Sp::GFP in the p327 vector and with 10 μg 35Sp::MSL10 in the pAlligator2
227 vector. We only used fluorescent protoplasts, indicating a co-transformation, for patch-clamp
228 experiments. As controls for transfection, we tested patches from $\Delta 5$ cells transfected with
229 soluble GFP alone (n= 5) and found no mechanically activated currents in the pressure range
230 from 0 to 60 mmHg.

231 **Electrophysiology**

232 Patch-clamp experiments were performed as described at room temperature with a patch-clamp
233 amplifier (model 200A, Axon Instruments, Foster City) and a Digidata 1322A interface (Axon
234 Instruments). Currents were filtered at 1 kHz, digitized at 4 kHz, and analyzed with
235 pCLAMP8.1 and Clampfit 10 software. During patch-clamp recordings, the membrane
236 potential was clamped at -186 mV and the pressure was applied with a High Speed Pressure-
237 Clamp system²⁹ (ALA Scientific Instrument), allowing the application of precise and controlled

238 either pressure pulses or continuous sinusoidal variations in the pipette¹¹. Media are designed
239 in order to eliminate stretch-activated K⁺ currents whereas the Ca²⁺ current is negligible
240 compared to that Cl⁻. Isolated protoplasts were maintained in bathing medium: 50 mM CaCl₂,
241 5 mM MgCl₂, 10 mM MES-Tris, and 0,25 mM LaCl₃ (pH 5.6). Membrane seal with low
242 resistance (< 1 GΩ) and with unstable current after excision were rejected. The pipettes were
243 filled with 150 mM CsCl, 2 mM MgCl₂, 5 mM EGTA, 4.2 mM CaCl₂, and 10 mM Tris-HEPES
244 (pH 7.2), supplemented with 5 mM MgATP. We adjusted the osmolarity with mannitol to 450
245 mosmol for the bath solution and 460 mosmol for the pipette solution using an osmometer
246 (Type 15, Löser Meßtechnik). Gigaohm resistance seals between pipettes (pipette resistance,
247 0.8-1.5 MΩ), coated with Sylgard (General Electric) and pulled from capillaries (Kimax-51,
248 Kimble Glass), and the protoplast membranes were obtained with gentle suction leading to the
249 whole-cell configuration, and then excised to an outside-out configuration. The current-
250 pressure relationship data were fitted to a Boltzmann function

$$251 \quad I = I_r + I_m \cdot \frac{1}{1 + e^{(P_{0.5}-P)/P_c}}$$

252 where I_r is the background current at zero pressure, I_m is the maximum steady state current
253 intensity, P_c is the slope of the tangent at inflexion point and $P_{0.5}$ is the pressure of half
254 activation.

255 The current activation kinetics were fitted with a mono-exponential function

$$256 \quad F(t) = A \cdot e^{-t/\tau} + C$$

257 where A is current-scale coefficient, τ is the time constant and C maximum current intensity.

258 Mechanosensitive channels respond to the membrane tension, which itself depends on
259 the pipette (and patch) geometry^{30,31}. Thus, as the membrane geometry is slightly different from
260 one patch to another (Extended Data Fig. 2a and 2d), Boltzmann functions were determined for
261 each patch individually, prior oscillatory pressure stimulation was applied (Extended Data Fig.
262 2a). This allows delivering the oscillatory pressure in the same zone of membrane tension

263 sensitivity. The amplitude of the oscillation was +15/-15 mmHg from a mean-pressure baseline
264 that we choose slightly below (5 to 10 mmHg) the $P_{0.5}$ (Fig. 3a).

265 **Statistical analysis**

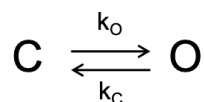
266 The data were analysed using Student's *t*-test and analysis of variance. Comparison of NP(o)
267 at different frequencies (Fig.3 and Extended Fig.4) were analysed with Rank Sum test.
268 NP(o)_{osc} was determined for each oscillatory sinusoidal pressure frequency (0.3 to 30 Hz)
269 and NP(o)_{stat} for each static stimulation prior to frequency stimulation. In Fig. 3b we present
270 the ratio NP(o)_{osc} / NP(o)_{stat} called NP(o) Ratio. The same logic is applied for T_{open} ratio and
271 T_{close} ratio Fig. 3c and d.

272 **Cloning and genetics**

273 All plasmid constructs were made with Gateway technology (Life Technologies). The *MSL10*
274 cDNA was cloned previously into pENTR/D-TOPO¹⁷. This pENTR construct was then used in
275 recombination reactions with pAlligator³² to create the MSL10 protein overexpression
276 construct (*p35S::MSL10*). This construct was used for transient expression in protoplasts
277 obtained from the quintuple mutant *msh4;msh5;msh6; msh9;msh10* ($\Delta 5 + MSL10$).

278 **Modeling**

279 We modeled MSL10 as a 2 states channel: an open one (O), in which the channel is activated,
280 and a closed one (C) in which the channel is completely closed. The equilibrium between the 2
281 states is given by the classical chemical reaction:



283 with k_o and k_c the opening and closing rates, respectively. Opening (resp. closing) rate increases
284 (resp. decreases) exponentially with the applied pressure, describing the mechano-sensitivity in
285 the Arrhenius framework. This model doesn't contain any specific oscillatory sensitivity, but

286 the reaction rates are affected by the changes in pressure. We then adjusted the four constants
287 of the model to reproduce the experimental data (Fig. 4a).

288 **Accession numbers**

289 *MSL4*: At1g53470 (SALK_142497, msl4-1)

290 *MSL5*: At3g14810 (SALK_127784, msl5-2)

291 *MSL6*: At1g78610 (SALK_06711, msl6-1)

292 *MSL9*: At5g19520 (SALK_114626, msl9-1)

293 *MSL10*: At5g12080 (SALK_076254, msl10-1)

294

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365

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374

375 **Author Contributions**

376 D.T performed experiments; T.G generated MSL10 lines; M.G, N.L.F, B.M and E.dL were
377 involved in study design; D.T, J.M.A and J.M.F designed the study; D.T, J.M.A and J.M.F

378 analyzed data; D.T and J.M.F wrote the paper. All authors discussed the results and
379 commented on the manuscript.

380

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384

385 **Figure legends**

386 **Figure 1 | Oscillatory movement and *MSL10* expression pattern in aerial part of**
387 ***Arabidopsis* plants.**

388 **Figure 2 | Gating kinetics and pressure dependence of MSL10 in native membrane.**

389 **Figure 3 | Effect of oscillatory pressure stimulation on MSL10 channel characteristics.**

390 **Figure 4 | Modelling of MSL 10 channel as a classical double state system.**

391

392 **Additional information**

393 **Supplementary Figure 1 | MSL10 pressure dependence of activation time constants.**

394

395 **Supplementary Figure 2 | Determination of current-pressure relationship of MSL10**
396 **channel.**

397

398 **Supplementary Figure 3 | MSL10 channel opening occurred almost exclusively during**
399 **the upper phase of the stimulation period.**

400

401 **Supplementary Figure 4 | Patch clamp recording of MSL10 elicited by oscillatory**
402 **pressure of 0.1 Hz, 1 Hz, 3 Hz.**

403

404 **Supplementary Figure 5 | MSL10 channel characteristics obtained on an individual**
405 **patch using a protocol alternating oscillatory and static stimulation.**

406

407

408 **Supplementary Movie 1 | Oscillatory movement of an Arabidopsis thaliana plant after**
409 **elicitation by an air pulse. Slow motion X 16.**

410

411 **Supplementary Movie 2 | Activation of the mechanosensitive channel MSL10 elicited**
412 **by oscillatory pressure of 0.1 Hz, 1 Hz, 3 Hz.**