

1 **Title:** The cell wall regulates dynamics and size of plasma-membrane nanodomains in  
2 *Arabidopsis*.

3

4 **One sentence summary:** Size and mobility of protein nanodomains in the plant plasma-  
5 membrane are regulated by interaction with the cell wall extracellular matrix.

6

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16

17 **Abstract:** Plant plasma-membrane (PM) proteins are involved in several vital processes,  
18 such as detection of pathogens, transportation and cellular signalling. Recent models  
19 suggest that for these proteins to function effectively there needs to be structure within the  
20 PM allowing, for example, proteins in the same signalling cascade to be spatially organised.  
21 Here we demonstrate that several proteins with divergent functions are located in clusters of  
22 differing size in the membrane when imaged using sub-diffraction-limited Airyscan confocal  
23 microscopy. In addition, single particle tracking reveals that these proteins move at different  
24 rates within the membrane. We show that the actin and microtubule cytoskeletons appear to  
25 significantly regulate the mobility of one of these proteins (the pathogen receptor FLS2)  
26 within the plasma-membrane. We further demonstrate that the cell wall is critical for the  
27 regulation of cluster size by affecting single particle dynamics of two proteins with key roles  
28 in morphogenesis (PIN3) and pathogen perception (FLS2). We propose a model in which  
29 the cell wall and cytoskeleton are pivotal for differentially regulating protein cluster size and  
30 dynamics thereby contributing to the formation and functionality of membrane nanodomains.

31

32 **Main text:**

33

34 **Introduction**

35 The plasma membrane (PM) plays key roles in compartmentalisation and protection of cells  
36 from the environment (1). In plants, proteins located within the PM are critical for signal  
37 perception, transduction and the controlled import and export of molecules (2). The structure

38 of the PM was described by the fluid mosaic-model as a diffuse mixture of proteins in motion  
39 (3). However, this does not fit observations of protein spatial heterogeneity in membranes  
40 and subsequent models have been developed (4) which incorporate so-called lipid rafts,  
41 detergent resistant membranes, cytoskeleton corralling and extracellular matrices as  
42 mechanisms of spatial constraint (5).

43 While proposed models of PM organisation are under dispute and no single model  
44 explains all experimental observations across different model organisms, a number of  
45 proteins are known to locate to specific domains in the plant PM. The best studied of these  
46 in plants is the REMORIN family (6–8). Members of the REMORIN family form non-  
47 overlapping PM nanodomains (6). We define nanodomains here as others have previously:  
48 distinguishable submicron protein or lipid assemblies which are 20nm to 1µm in size (8).  
49 While the patterning of these REMORIN nanodomains has been well described, no known  
50 functional role has thus far been ascribed to them. Proteins critical for normal  
51 morphogenesis and development such as PIN1 and PIN2 are localized to defined domains  
52 in the PM. PIN2 has been shown, using STED super-resolution imaging, to form clusters in  
53 the PM, with controlled endo-, and exocytosis from adjacent membrane regions to the  
54 localization domain (9). Additionally, the pathogen receptor FLS2 has been shown to  
55 localise to nanodomains in the plasma-membrane (10). Spatial organisation of proteins in  
56 the PM is, therefore, important for development and response to the environment, but how is  
57 membrane domain patterning regulated?

58 The underlying cytoskeleton and outlying cell wall can be thought of as a continuum  
59 with the PM (2, 11). There are numerous examples of cytoskeletal and PM mechanisms  
60 which play roles in cell wall production and regulation of cell wall patterning: i) the  
61 microtubule-guided CesA complex determines patterns of cellulose microfibril deposition  
62 (12, 13), ii) microtubule-associated MIDD1 is involved in secondary cell-wall pit formation  
63 (14), iii) the CASP family of proteins form a PM nanodomain which defines the site of  
64 Casparian strip formation (15), and iv) FORMIN1 is anchored within the cell wall, spans the  
65 PM and nucleates actin filaments as part of a mechanism in which cell-wall anchoring is  
66 required for actin cytoskeleton organisation (16). The cell wall has been shown to have a  
67 role in regulating the lateral diffusion of two ‘minimal’ membrane proteins which have GFP  
68 projecting into the cell wall space (5). ‘Minimal’ membrane proteins are artificially-created  
69 peptides which localise to the plasma membrane via one of a number of association  
70 mechanisms. They were designed as fluorescent protein fusions and have no predicted  
71 protein interactions or biological functions. The plant cell wall is also required for normal  
72 localisation of PIN2 in the membrane and hence regulation of cell polarity (17). These  
73 examples highlight the possibility that the components of the cytoskeleton / PM / cell wall

74 continuum can regulate each other, with cell-wall regulation of plasma-membrane, and  
75 cytoskeleton organization already observed (5, 18).

76 A systematic study of a number of PM proteins in transiently and stably expressing  
77 plant cells has demonstrated a difference in their lateral mobility (5). This was achieved by  
78 Fluorescence Recovery After Photobleaching (FRAP) using high temporal but low spatial  
79 resolution. With the ever increasing toolkit of sub-diffraction limited microscopy techniques  
80 developed over recent years we used Airyscan imaging (19, 20) of flat membrane sheets in  
81 stably expressing *A. thaliana* hypocotyl cells to image PM structure with high spatial  
82 resolution. We chose to use Airyscan imaging and Total Internal Reflection Fluorescence -  
83 Single particle (TIRF-SP) imaging as they do not involve the use of special fluorophores  
84 required for PALM or a high power depletion laser used in STED which causes damage of  
85 aerial tissue in plants due to the presence of light absorbing chloroplasts. A combination of  
86 TIRF-SP and Airyscan imaging allows fast temporal acquisition with sub-diffraction limit  
87 resolution (down to 140 nm for the latter) in all plant tissues with the use of any existing  
88 fluorophore (19).

89 We show that FLS2, PIN3, BRI1 and PIP2A, form clusters of differing size from 164  
90 to 231 nm. Upon further investigation actin and microtubule cytoskeletons regulate the  
91 diffusion rate of the pathogen receptor FLS2 but not the hormone transporter PIN3.  
92 Furthermore, cluster size and diffusion rate of both FLS2 and PIN3 are regulated by  
93 cellulose and pectin components of the cell wall.

94 We hypothesise that the constraint of the cell wall on PM proteins and differential  
95 regulation by the actin and microtubule cytoskeletons can contribute to PM organisation by  
96 altering protein dynamics and hence nanodomain size. This is a mechanism by which  
97 proteins can exist within different sized nanodomains.

98

## 99 **Results**

100

### 101 **Plasma-membrane proteins form clusters within the membrane**

102

103 We chose several well characterised PM proteins which have a variety of functions in  
104 order to determine how different proteins are organized in the PM and whether their dynamic  
105 behaviour differs. Airyscan imaging and determination of nanodomain full width half  
106 maximum (FWHM) demonstrated that proteins form clusters within the PM which are not  
107 resolved by diffraction-limited confocal imaging (Fig.1. & S1). Protein clusters were observed  
108 and measured for the auxin transporter PIN3 (Puncta FWHM, =  $166.7 \pm 31.1$  nm, Fig.1), the  
109 pathogen receptor FLS2 (Puncta FWHM =  $164.3 \pm 32.0$  nm, Fig.1), the hormone receptor  
110 BRI1 (Puncta FWHM =  $172.6 \pm 41.3$  nm, Fig.S1) and the aquaporin PIP2A (Puncta FWHM =

111 194.3±66.8 nm, Fig.S1). Cluster diameter was determined by full width half maximum  
112 (FWHM) measurements of line profiles over randomly selected nanodomains. Each protein  
113 observed had a nanodomain diameter under the 250nm abbe resolution limit of confocal  
114 microscopy using GFP (Fig.1D)(21). When compared to REM1.3 (Puncta FWHM =  
115 231.0±44.8 nm, Fig.1) which is known to form highly stable nanodomains resolvable by  
116 confocal microscopy within the PM (6), FLS2 and PIN3 clusters are significantly smaller and  
117 are more dynamic within the membrane (Fig.1C and S1).

118

### 119 **Proteins move at different speeds within the membrane**

120

121 In order to determine the diffusion rate of select proteins within the PM we used Total  
122 Internal Reflection Fluorescence - Single Particle (TIRF-SP) imaging which yields high  
123 spatial and temporal resolution tracking information. We chose to focus on the PM proteins  
124 p35S::paGFP-LTI6b, p35S::PIP2A-paGFP, pFLS2::FLS2-GFP and pPIN3::PIN3-GFP as  
125 these cover a diverse range of functions from pathogen perception, to morphogen transport  
126 and resource acquisition (Fig.2, Supplemental movie 1). It is worth noting, TIRF-SP imaging  
127 and tracking can be performed with both photoactivatable GFP (paGFP) and GFP and with  
128 overexpression or native promoters. However, expression needs to be within a range  
129 sufficient for signal detection but not so bright as to saturate the detector. This was the case  
130 for expression driven by the PIN3 and FLS2 promoters in the *A. thaliana* hypocotyl. Here we  
131 show diffusion rates from fitting a constrained diffusion model to the initial 4 seconds of  
132 particle tracking (Fig.2A-D). As has previously been shown by FRAP (5), the marker protein  
133 paGFP-LTI6b displays a significantly greater diffusion rate ( $D=0.063\pm 0.003\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ,  $p<0.01$ ,  
134 Fig.2C & S2) when compared to the other proteins. The aquaporin PIP2A-paGFP  
135 ( $D=0.026\pm 0.004\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ) displays an enhanced diffusion rate when compared to FLS2-GFP  
136 ( $D=0.005\pm 0.004\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ,  $p<0.01$ ) and PIN3-GFP ( $0.012\pm 0.001\mu\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$ ,  $p<0.01$ , Fig.2C).  
137 FLS2-GFP and PIN3-GFP showed statistically different diffusion ( $p\leq 0.05$ ). Fitting a pure  
138 diffusion model to the first two points of each curve shows the same pattern for protein  
139 diffusion rates, showing that our conclusions are robust to the choice of model although the  
140 precise diffusion values are different (Fig.2&S2). However, unlike the constrained diffusion  
141 rate for the proteins investigated, the constrained area occupied by the particle was shown  
142 to be the same for PIP2A-paGFP, FLS2-GFP and PIN3-GFP, with only paGFP-LTI6b  
143 showing a statistically significant increase in constrained area size compared to the other  
144 proteins ( $p<0.05-0.01$ , Fig.2D). Thus, we have demonstrated by single particle imaging that  
145 PM proteins move at different speeds within the membrane even when the areas that they  
146 move within are relatively similar in size.

147

148 **The actin and microtubule cytoskeletons differentially regulate PM protein dynamics**

149

150 The cell surface exists as a continuum containing the cell wall, PM and cytoskeleton  
151 (11). Previously it had been shown by FRAP that incubation of seedlings with cytochalasin D  
152 or oryzalin which depolymerize actin microfilaments or microtubules, respectively, did not  
153 affect the dynamics of 'minimal' membrane proteins (5). Here, upon actin or microtubule  
154 depolymerisation, no changes were observed in the constrained diffusion rate for PIN3-GFP  
155 and paGFP-LTI6b (Fig 3A&E, Supplemental movie 2). Interestingly, both showed a  
156 statistically significant increase in constrained area after actin depolymerisation ( $p < 0.05$ , Fig  
157 3B&F). Conversely, upon actin or microtubule depolymerisation, FLS2-GFP displayed an  
158 increase in protein diffusion rate, (Mock;  $D = 0.0053 \pm 0.0004 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ , Lat-B;  $D = 0.011 \pm$   
159  $0.002 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ , Oryzalin;  $D = 0.013 \pm 0.002 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ,  $p < 0.001$ , Fig 3C, Supplemental movie 2) but  
160 not in constrained area (Fig. 3D). This was also observed for instantaneous diffusion rates  
161 (Fig.S3). Therefore, the actin and microtubule cytoskeletons can differentially regulate the  
162 mobility of proteins in the membrane.

163

164 **The cell wall regulates PM diffusion rate, constrained area and nanocluster size**

165

166 Lateral diffusion denotes protein dynamics within the plane of a membrane.  
167 Previously it was shown using a combination of plasmolysis and protoplasting treatments  
168 that, upon removal of the cell wall constraint, protein lateral diffusion of 'minimal' PM proteins  
169 with extracellular GFP is increased (5). Therefore, we hypothesized that the cell wall  
170 constrains the lateral diffusion rate of biologically functional proteins within the membrane.  
171 Here, we performed TIRF-SP imaging of paGFP-LTI6b, PIN3-GFP and FLS2-GFP in  
172 combination with pharmacological perturbation of the cell wall (Fig.4-5). We decided to use  
173 two biologically active proteins with divergent function under control of their own promoters.  
174 The cellulose synthase specific herbicide DCB (22) and the pectin demethylase EGCG  
175 (23) were used to impair either cellulose synthesis or pectin status (Fig.4-5) and hence the  
176 cell wall. Upon cell wall impairment with either, there was a non-significant trend towards  
177 increased constrained diffusion rate (Fig. 4B) and constrained area (Fig. 4C) for paGFP-  
178 LTI6b (Fig.4, Supplemental video 3). Therefore, over one hour of treatment with either drug,  
179 an alteration in cell wall structure did not dramatically alter paGFP-LTI6b dynamics within the  
180 membrane. There was however a statistically significant increase in the instantaneous  
181 diffusion rate of paGFP-LTI6b upon cellulose or pectin perturbation of the cell wall  
182 (Fig.S5A&B, Mock; instantaneous  $D = 0.066 \pm 0.005 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ , DCB; instantaneous  $D = 0.085 \pm$   
183  $0.004 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ , EGCG; instantaneous  $D = 0.085 \pm 0.003 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ). In addition, upon plasmolysis  
184 with either NaCl or mannitol, the paGFP-LTI6b diffusion rate was significantly increased in

185 the PM (Fig.S4A-E, Supplemental video 4). Therefore, minor cell wall perturbation by  
186 impairing individual components does not affect the constrained diffusion rate of paGFP-  
187 LTI6b, but significant separation of the cell wall from the cell cortex and PM by plasmolysis  
188 does.

189 We also performed TIRF-SP imaging of the PM proteins PIN3-GFP and FLS2-GFP  
190 after cell wall perturbation (Fig. 5, supplemental movie 5). We chose PIN3-GFP and FLS2-  
191 GFP as their diffusion rates in untreated cells were reduced compared to paGFP-LTI6b and  
192 PIP2A-paGFP (Fig.2). In addition, PIN3 is functionally active in the hypocotyl as the flow of  
193 auxin is constant throughout plant development. Conversely, FLS2 should not be signalling  
194 in the absence of its ligand flg22 (24). In this study we tracked both active and non-active  
195 biologically functioning proteins and any similarities observed should demonstrate overall  
196 effects of the cell wall on PM protein dynamics. Unlike paGFP-LTI6b, both PIN3-GFP and  
197 FLS2-GFP showed significantly increased constrained diffusion rate and area upon  
198 treatment with either DCB or EGCG (Fig 5A-H). FLS2 diffusion was  $0.0054 \pm 0.0004 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ,  
199 DCB;  $0.0091 \pm 0.001 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ , EGCG;  $0.013 \pm 0.001 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ,  $p < 0.001$ . PIN3 diffusion was  $0.012$   
200  $\pm 0.001 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$  in control,  $0.0159 \pm 0.0008 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$  in DCB and  $0.018 \pm 0.001 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$  in EGCG  
201 ( $p < 0.05$ ). Therefore, perturbation of either cellulose or pectin components of the cell wall  
202 results in these proteins diffusing faster and over a larger area (Fig 5). Furthermore, as a  
203 control, plasmolysis with either NaCl or mannitol and subsequent separation of the cell wall  
204 and PM caused an increase in diffusion rate and constrained area of both (Fig.S4F-O,  
205 Supplemental movie 6), with the exception of the constrained region for FLS2-GFP  
206 (Fig.S4J).

207 In combination with the TIRF-SPT, Airyscan imaging of PIN3-GFP and FLS2-GFP  
208 demonstrates that nanodomain size significantly increases upon perturbation of either  
209 cellulose synthesis or pectin status (Fig 5D&H). FLS2-GFP control nanodomain size was  
210  $161.4\text{nm} \pm 41.5 \text{SD}$ , DCB  $180.7\text{nm} \pm 65.35 \text{SD}$  and EGCG  $182.1\text{nm} \pm 61.94 \text{SD}$  (Fig. 5D).  
211 Changes in nanodomain size after DCB and EGCG were statistically significant compared  
212 with mock treatment ( $p \leq 0.0001$ , ANOVA), however there was no statistically significant  
213 difference between FLS2-GFP DCB and EGCG treated nanodomain size ( $p \geq 0.05$ , ANOVA).  
214 PIN3 control nanodomain size was  $173.1\text{nm} \pm 70.1 \text{SD}$ , DCB was  $187.6\text{nm} \pm 72.29 \text{SD}$  and  
215 EGCG was  $191.5\text{nm} \pm 50.92 \text{SD}$  (Fig. 5H). As with FLS2-GFP, PIN3-GFP nanodomain  
216 FWHM were statistically significant between control and DCB or EGCG ( $p \leq 0.0001$ , ANOVA),  
217 however there was no statistical significance between DCB and EGCG ( $p \geq 0.05$ , ANOVA).

218 Therefore, for FLS2-GFP and PIN3-GFP upon either plasmolysis, or cellulose and  
219 pectin disruption, there is an increase in constrained diffusion rate, constrained area, and  
220 nanodomain size. This demonstrates that the cell wall has a direct role in regulating both  
221 PIN3-GFP and FLS2-GFP protein dynamics and nanodomain size in the membrane.



222

223 **Discussion**

224

225 **Proteins reside in different sized nanodomains and display different dynamics in the**  
226 **plasma membrane**

227

228 Here we have shown that several proteins form nanodomains within the plasma  
229 membrane which can be resolved with sub diffraction-limited imaging. Furthermore, the  
230 proteins we chose to image have diverse biological functions and have not been shown to  
231 have domains anchored into the cell wall, such as FORMIN1(16), AGP4 (5) or WAK1&2  
232 (25). The auxin efflux protein PIN2 has been shown to form nanodomains in the membrane  
233 using STED microscopy of between 100-200nm which is the same observed by us for PIN3  
234 using Airyscan imaging (Fig. 1 and (9)). however in the same investigation BRI1 was found to  
235 have weak protein heterogeneity (9), which is in contradiction to our findings (Fig.S1) and  
236 those of others (26). This was however in roots and we imaged in hypocotyls so this could  
237 be explained by tissue specific differences such as the cell wall, which we and others have  
238 shown to be important for nanodomain size (Fig 5 and (5)). We have shown that nanodomain  
239 size is significantly different for the various proteins investigated, with all proteins showing  
240 statistically significant differences in nanodomain size (Figs. 1&S1). Recent work has  
241 demonstrated that both FLS2 and BRI1 form nanodomains in the membrane (10, 26–28),  
242 which supports our study. However, the reported size for BRI1-GFP and FLS2-GFP  
243 nanodomains is significantly larger than we observe here (10). This could be due to the  
244 imaging mode used and the image analysis methods employed.

245 Using TIRF single particle (TIRF-SP) imaging and tracking, we have demonstrated  
246 that FLS2 and PIN3 have different diffusion rates within the plane of the PM. Furthermore,  
247 the dynamics of the proteins investigated are complex and not uniform. As shown  
248 previously, the paGFP-LTI6b diffusion rate is high relative to most other proteins thus far  
249 investigated (5). However it only has two residues projecting into the extracellular space  
250 compared to FLS2-GFP and PIN3-GFP which have larger extracellular domains (29, 30).  
251 ‘Minimal’ membrane proteins which are PM anchored and have an intracellular GFP tag  
252 have faster diffusion rates than ‘minimal’ membrane proteins which have extracellular GFP  
253 (2, 5). Therefore, with regards to investigation of PM protein dynamics, the study of functional  
254 biologically relevant proteins which contain extracellular domains is more instructive than  
255 marker proteins such as paGFP-LTI6b although the dynamics of biologically functional PM  
256 localised proteins which have no extracellular domains still needs to be investigated.

257 To conclude, protein domain diffusion rate heterogeneity exists in the plant PM for all  
258 the proteins investigated in this study. This is similar to observations using dSTORM super

259 resolution imaging of individual TCR molecules in activated human T cells (31) and proteins  
260 located in membrane sheets imaged with STED (32). Therefore, heterogeneity of membrane  
261 protein diffusion rates is a common theme across kingdoms. It is interesting to note that all  
262 proteins imaged also form differently sized nanodomains within the PM. Heterogeneity of  
263 protein domain size and diffusion rate suggests that nanodomains of PM localised proteins  
264 must show substantial crowding / overlap within the membrane. However, we have only  
265 imaged one labelled nanodomain at a time in this study. It will be interesting to extend this  
266 work to investigate protein species heterogeneity within the imaged nanodomains. Protein  
267 association within nanodomains would convey rapid functionality in multi-protein response  
268 pathways. Additionally, it could account for how signalling pathways which rely on common  
269 components such as FLS2 and BRI1 can lead to environmental or development responses  
270 as has been shown previously(10). This could also account for cross talk between different  
271 pathways when components are localised to specific but partially overlapping nanodomains.

272

273 **The actin and microtubule cytoskeleton can regulate the diffusion of FLS2 but not**  
274 **PIN3 and LTI6b.**

275

276 We have demonstrated that the actin and microtubule cytoskeletons do not uniformly  
277 regulate the dynamics of PM proteins. The actin and microtubule cytoskeletons only regulate  
278 the constrained diffusion rate of FLS2, which has increased lateral dynamics after  
279 depolymerization of either network (Fig. 3C). Both PIN3-GFP and paGFP-LIT6b showed no  
280 statistical difference in diffusion rate upon cytoskeleton depolymerization, but did show an  
281 increase in the constrained area size when viewed as single particles (Fig. 3A-B & E-F).  
282 However, the constrained area was not altered for FLS2 by cytoskeleton depolymerization  
283 (Fig. 3). PIP2A has been shown by sptPALM imaging to have an increased diffusion rate  
284 upon depolymerization of the actin cytoskeleton (33), but, no difference was reported for  
285 PIP2A upon Oryzalin treatment to depolymerize the microtubule cytoskeleton. The actin and  
286 microtubule cytoskeleton regulation of some PM localised proteins is further demonstrated  
287 by a recent report showing that the pathogen perception signalling protein BIK1 has been  
288 shown to co-localise to microtubules but not the actin cytoskeleton (10). In addition, actin  
289 and microtubule depolymerisation resulted in loss of and enlargement of nanodomain  
290 structure of REM1.2-YFP respectively (34). Differential regulation of proteins by the  
291 cytoskeleton would contribute to proteins forming differently sized nanodomains and having  
292 differing diffusion rates in the membrane, which we have observed. All proteins investigated  
293 in this study show differently sized nanodomains with different dynamics in the membrane  
294 (Fig. 1 & S1). The regulation of PM proteins by the cortical actin cytoskeleton has been  
295 investigated widely in mammalian cell systems and modelling has demonstrated that the



296 actin cytoskeleton is sufficient to regulate heterogeneities in PM protein organisation (35).  
297 This could partly account for the differences we observe in PM nanodomains size and  
298 dynamics *in planta*.

299

### 300 **The cell wall regulates PM nanodomain size and dynamics**

301

302 To determine any effect that perturbations in different cell wall matrix components  
303 might have on the diffusion rate of proteins within the PM we perturbed cellulose synthesis  
304 and pectin methylation status. Neither of these treatments had a statistically significant effect  
305 on the constrained diffusion rate or area of LTI6b in the membrane (Fig. 3). paGFP-LTI6b is  
306 an extremely mobile protein and shows very different characteristics during TIRF-SP  
307 tracking to the other biologically functioning PM proteins investigated. We hypothesize that  
308 due to the relatively fast diffusion rate of the protein in the PM and only having two residues  
309 in the apoplast, it is under relatively little constraint from the cell wall and hence, a minor cell  
310 wall perturbation over a short period such as those performed here with DCB and EGCG  
311 would not dramatically alter its diffusion rate. However, a major separation of the cell wall  
312 and PM during plasmolysis did significantly increase its diffusion rate in the membrane (Fig.  
313 S4).

314 PIN3 and FLS2 showed rapid changes in both constrained diffusion rate and  
315 constrained area upon cellulose or pectin disruption (Fig.5). Therefore the cell wall acts to  
316 constrain the lateral mobility of these proteins within the PM. We have demonstrated that cell  
317 wall structure also regulates nanodomain size (Fig. 5D&H). This is surprising as after cell  
318 wall perturbation for 20 minutes the cellulose synthase complexes are removed from the PM  
319 (13) but no other changes have been reported until much later with transcriptional changes,  
320 phytohormone induction and lignin deposition occurring at 4-7 hours of treatment (36).  
321 Therefore, minor cell wall perturbations rapidly affect PM nanodomain structure and  
322 dynamics. That such a short treatment has a profound effect on PM protein dynamics  
323 demonstrates how intimately related the cell wall and PM are. This could be an as yet  
324 undescribed mechanism of the plant cell that allows it to rapidly respond to mechanical  
325 stimuli. In addition, it is interesting that separating the cell wall and PM that occurs during  
326 plasmolysis results in increased diffusion of paGFP-LTI6b, whereas specifically impairing a  
327 single component over a short time frame did not. This could be because the cell wall has a  
328 global effect on the dynamics of all proteins with the severity depending on the size of any  
329 extracellular domains or residues. In addition, a subset of proteins with extracellular residues  
330 such as PIN3-GFP and FLS2-GFP might chemically interact with cell wall domains as has  
331 been demonstrated for Formin1 (5), and breakage of these chemical bonds resulting from  
332 plasmolysis might destabilize the entire membrane structure. The dense extracellular matrix

333 of brain synapses has been shown to regulate the lateral mobility of AMSP-type glutamate  
334 receptors (37). Therefore, the role of extracellular matrices in governing the dynamics of PM  
335 proteins is common across kingdoms.

336 It would be interesting to determine if changes in nanodomain size affect the  
337 signalling functions of either PIN3 or FLS2 and subsequent hormone transport or ligand  
338 binding. Here we show using native promoter expression of tagged proteins that their  
339 dynamics and nanodomain size are regulated by the cell wall. The pathogen receptor protein  
340 FLS2 has lowered lateral mobility when treated with flg22 in protoplasts (38). Recently, it has  
341 been shown that flg22 treatment results in decreased dynamics of FLS2 nanodomains (10),  
342 confirming the FRAP result reported previously (38). This has been demonstrated for the  
343 aquaporin PIP2A which, upon salt stress, co-localizes with the membrane nanodomain  
344 marker FLOT1 and shows changes in its mobility within the membrane (39). In addition,  
345 membrane nanodomains have been shown to be important for the activation of receptor-  
346 mediated signalling upon ligand perception and subsequent clathrin-mediated endocytosis  
347 (26). Therefore, given the cell wall plays a role in regulating the size of these nanodomains  
348 and their dynamics, cell wall regulation of PM nanodomains is of fundamental importance to  
349 signalling *in planta*

350 To conclude, we have shown that a number of PM proteins form nanodomains within  
351 the PM and that these are of sufficient size for imaging using sub-diffraction limited  
352 techniques such as the Zeiss Airyscan system. These nanodomains are of different sizes  
353 and their dynamics and size can be differentially regulated by the actin and microtubule  
354 cytoskeletons and the cell wall. As yet, very limited information exists as to how PM proteins  
355 form nanodomains. We demonstrate here that the cell wall plays a key role in regulation of  
356 protein nanodomain size and lateral mobility for the pathogen receptor FLS2 and the auxin  
357 transporter PIN3. We hypothesize that the cytoskeleton and cell wall slow nanodomain  
358 dynamics sufficiently to allow relatively static distribution of functional proteins so that they  
359 are well placed spatially for optimum association.

360

## 361 **Materials and Methods**

### 362 **Plant material**

363 The seed lines used have been previously described; p35S::paGFP-LTI6b (5),  
364 pFLS2::FLS2-GFP (24), pPIN3::PIN3-GFP , p35S::PIP2A-GFP (40), p35S::PIP2A-paGFP  
365 (41), pUBQ10::REM1.3-YFP (6) and pBRI1::BRI1-GFP (42). *A. thaliana* seeds were  
366 sterilised in 70% ethanol for 5 minutes, 50% bleach for 5 minutes and washed four times  
367 with water. Seeds were placed on square agar plates composed of ½ strength MS with MES  
368 and 0.8% Phytigel. Seedlings were then stratified on plates for 2 days at 4 in the dark.

369 Plates were then placed in a growth chamber set to 16:8 long day, 23°C 120 $\mu$  Einstein's for  
370 5 days before imaging.

### 371 **Chemical treatments**

372 *A. thaliana* seedlings were treated in 8ml dH<sub>2</sub>O 6 well plates for 1 hour with the following  
373 concentrations, all made from 1000X stocks; 5 $\mu$ M DCB, 50 $\mu$ M EGCG, 0.5M mannitol,  
374 100mM NaCl, 2.5 $\mu$ M Latrunculin-B and 10 $\mu$ M Oryzalin. DCB, isoxaben, Latrunculin-B and  
375 Oryzalin were dissolved in DMSO and EGCG was dissolved in ethanol.

### 376 **Confocal and Airyscan microscopy**

377 Seedlings were imaged after five days of growth by mounting them on microscope slides  
378 and no1.5 coverslips immersed in dH<sub>2</sub>O. Slides and coverslips were held down with  
379 micropore tape. A Zeiss LSM880 equipped with an Airyscan detector was used for improved  
380 confocal microscopy. Airyscan imaging was performed using 488 and 514nm lasers for GFP  
381 and YFP respectively were used at 1% transmission with a dual 495-550 band pass and  
382 570nm long pass filter. For standard confocal imaging the same emission wavelength was  
383 imaged with a GaAsP detector. To avoid chlorophyll autofluorescence a 615nm shortpass  
384 filter was used. The 100x/1.46 DIC M27 Elyra oil immersion lens was used for all imaging. A  
385 5X zoom was used to image flat membrane sheets and imaging conditions were all set  
386 according to Zeiss optimal Airyscan framesize (for 5X zoom, 404x404). Frame sizes were  
387 kept the same for standard confocal imaging. For single particle experiments, N= a minimum  
388 of 12 cells imaged across 3 biological replicates per condition, the number of single particles  
389 tracked per condition is displayed in Table S1. For all Airyscan data N =  $\leq$ 64 punctae  
390 measured per cell for 36 cells across three biological repeats, exact numbers for each  
391 condition can be seen in Table S2.

### 392 **Airyscan image analysis**

393 PM protein nanodomain size was determined by imaging using the above conditions. Using  
394 FIJI an 8X8 grid was placed over the image and line profiles determined for the brightest  
395 nanodomain in each grid cell. The full width half maximum of these line profiles was then  
396 determined and this data was collated in Graphpad Prism version 7. Scatter dot plots were  
397 produced with error bars denoting the standard deviation. The statistical tests performed  
398 was an ANOVA with multiple comparisons. Kymographs were produced from 55 subsequent  
399 images comprising 8 seconds of imaging the PM. Multiline kymograph in FIJI was used to  
400 produce a kymograph with the line originating in the bottom left corner at a 45 degree angle  
401 to the top right for each data-set.

### 402 **TIRF-SP Imaging**

403 TIRF imaging was performed as described in (5) using an inverted microscope (Axio  
404 Observer, Zeiss) equipped with a 100X objective ( $\alpha$ -Plan-Apochromat, NA = 1.46; Zeiss)

405 and TIRF slider (Zeiss), 488-nm laser excitation (Stradus Versalase, Vortran), HQ525/50-nm  
406 emission filter (Chroma), and an electron-multiplication CCD (iXon+; Andor). The exposure  
407 time was 50 ms.

#### 408 **TIRF-SP tracking**

409 From single particle tracks, mean squared displacement (MSD) curves were calculated as  
410  $MSD(\Delta T) = \langle |r_i(T+\Delta T) - r_i(T)|^2 \rangle$  where  $|r_i(T+\Delta T) - r_i(T)|$  is the displacement between position of  
411 track  $i$  at time  $T$  and time  $T+\Delta T$  and the average is over all pairs of points separated by  $\Delta T$  in  
412 each track. The errors in the MSD curve were calculated by repeating the MSD curve  
413 calculation 200 times, each time on a different synthetic dataset created by randomly  
414 resampling with replacement the tracks present within each dataset, and the datasets  
415 present (bootstrap resampling (43)). The distribution of  $MSD_{boot_j}(\Delta T)$  curves about the MSD  
416 curve for the unresampled data,  $MSD(\Delta T)$ , should be close to the distribution of  $MSD(\Delta T)$   
417 about the true MSD curve (43). Therefore a posterior sample of 200 MSD curves  
418  $MSD_{post_j}(\Delta T)$  can be calculated from these 200 bootstrap MSD curves  $MSD_{boot_j}(\Delta T)$   
419 ( $j=1..200$ ).

420

$$MSD(\Delta T) - MSD_{post_j}(\Delta T) = MSD_{boot_j}(\Delta T) - MSD(\Delta T)$$

421

422 so

423

$$MSD_{post_j}(\Delta T) = 2MSD(\Delta T) - MSD_{boot_j}(\Delta T)$$

424

425 Subsequent model fits (see below) were performed on each posterior MSD curve sample to  
426 naturally yield joint posterior samples of the fitted model parameters suitable for determining  
427 confidence intervals, error bars and statistical tests.  $\chi^2$  fit was performed for each posterior  
428 sample using the standard deviation of the posterior MSDs at each  $\Delta T$  as the error estimate  
429 for calculating  $\chi^2$ .

430

431 The models fitted were free diffusion with parameters diffusion rate  $D$  and localisation error  
432  $\sigma_{loc}$ , which was fitted to the first two points on the curve, for which

433

$$434 \quad MSD(\Delta T) = 4D\Delta T + 4\sigma_{loc}^2 \quad (44)$$

435

436 and constrained diffusion with parameters initial diffusion rate  $D$ , confinement region size  $L$   
437 and localisation error  $\sigma_{loc}$  where

438

439  $MSD(\Delta T) = \frac{L^2}{3} \left[ 1 - \exp\left(\frac{-12D\Delta T}{L^2}\right) \right] + 4\sigma_{loc}^2$  (44)

440

441 The confidence intervals for each parameter were chosen as the midpoint  $\pm$  half width of  
442 shortest interval containing 69% of the posterior probability for that parameter.

443

444 We assume that for the null hypothesis that posterior samples 1 and 2 correspond to the  
445 same value of quantity  $x$ , the probability of a given difference  $\Delta x$  is the same as the  
446 measured probability of  $\Delta x$  about its mean, i.e.

447

$$P(\Delta x | NULL) = P(\Delta x - \langle \Delta x \rangle | sample1, sample2)$$

448

449 The probability that  $|\Delta x|$  is at least  $\langle \Delta x \rangle$  given the null hypothesis is then

450

$$P(|\Delta x| > |\langle \Delta x \rangle| | NULL) = \int_{|\langle \Delta x \rangle|}^{\infty} P(|\Delta x - \langle \Delta x \rangle| | sample1, sample2)$$

451 We use this as a non-parametric P-value for the null hypothesis that the two posterior  
452 samples measure the same value. In the case of normally distributed posteriors from  
453 normally distributed sample measurements this gives the same P-values as the 2-sided  
454 Welch's t-test.

455

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564

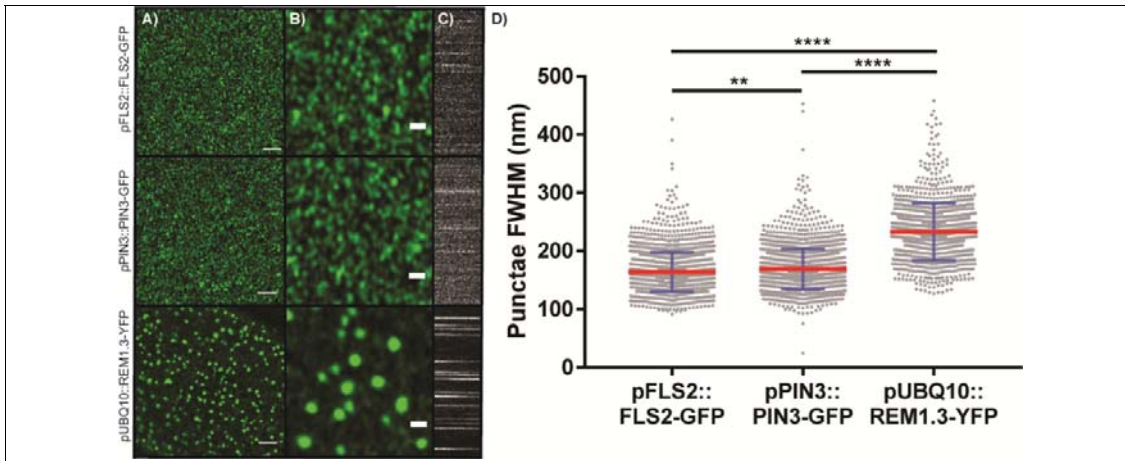
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572

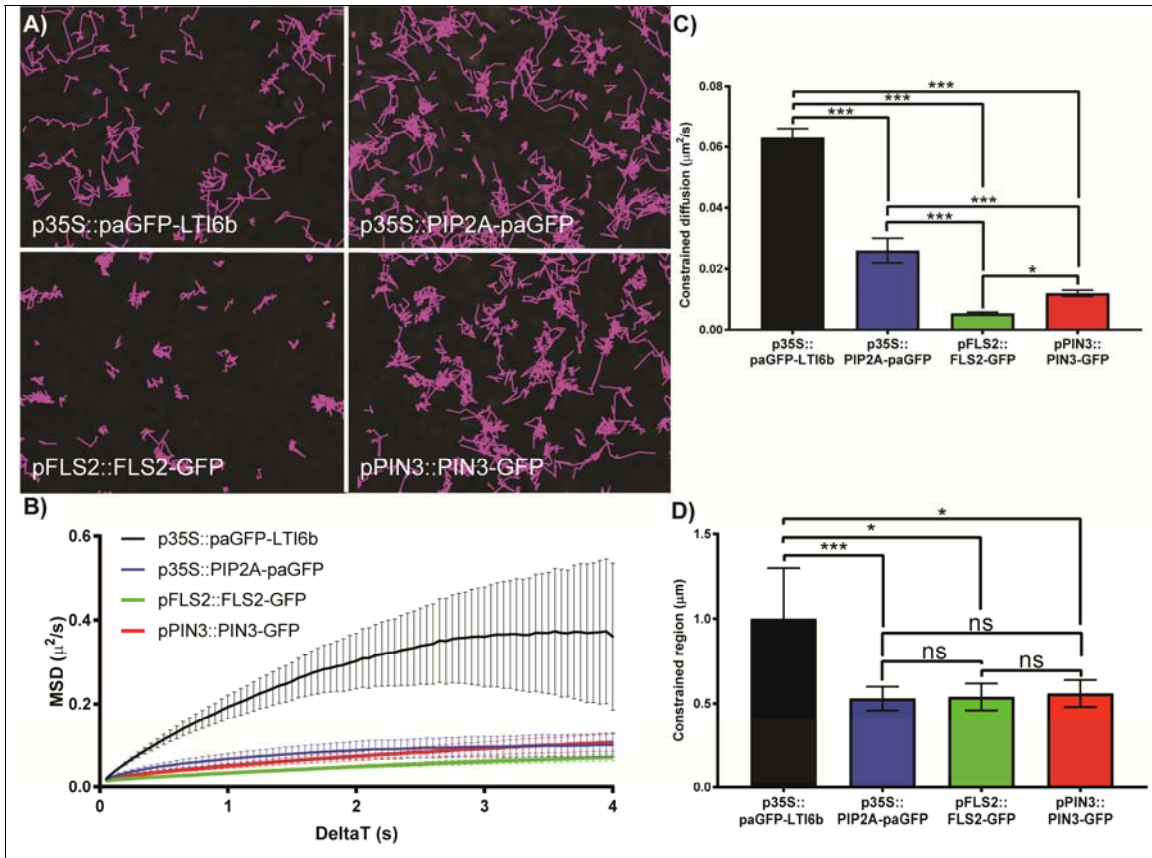
#### 573 **Figures**

574



**Figure 1 PM proteins form clusters in the hypocotyl membrane**

A) Airyscan imaging of pFLS2::FLS2-GFP, pPIN3::PIN3-GFP and pUBQ10::REM1.3-YFP clusters in the membrane of stably-transformed *A. thaliana*, scale bar = 2 $\mu$ m. B) Digitally magnified image of those in A) showing clusters in more detail, scale bar= 500nm. C) Kymographs show dynamics of each nanocluster over time A) x = time, y = line profile. D) Box-and-whisker plot of full width half maximum (FWHM) measurement of cluster diameter for PM proteins in A). Nanodomain diameter differs significantly for each protein pair. \*\*= $P < 0.01$  and \*\*\*\*= $P < 0.0001$ , ANOVA with multiple comparisons.

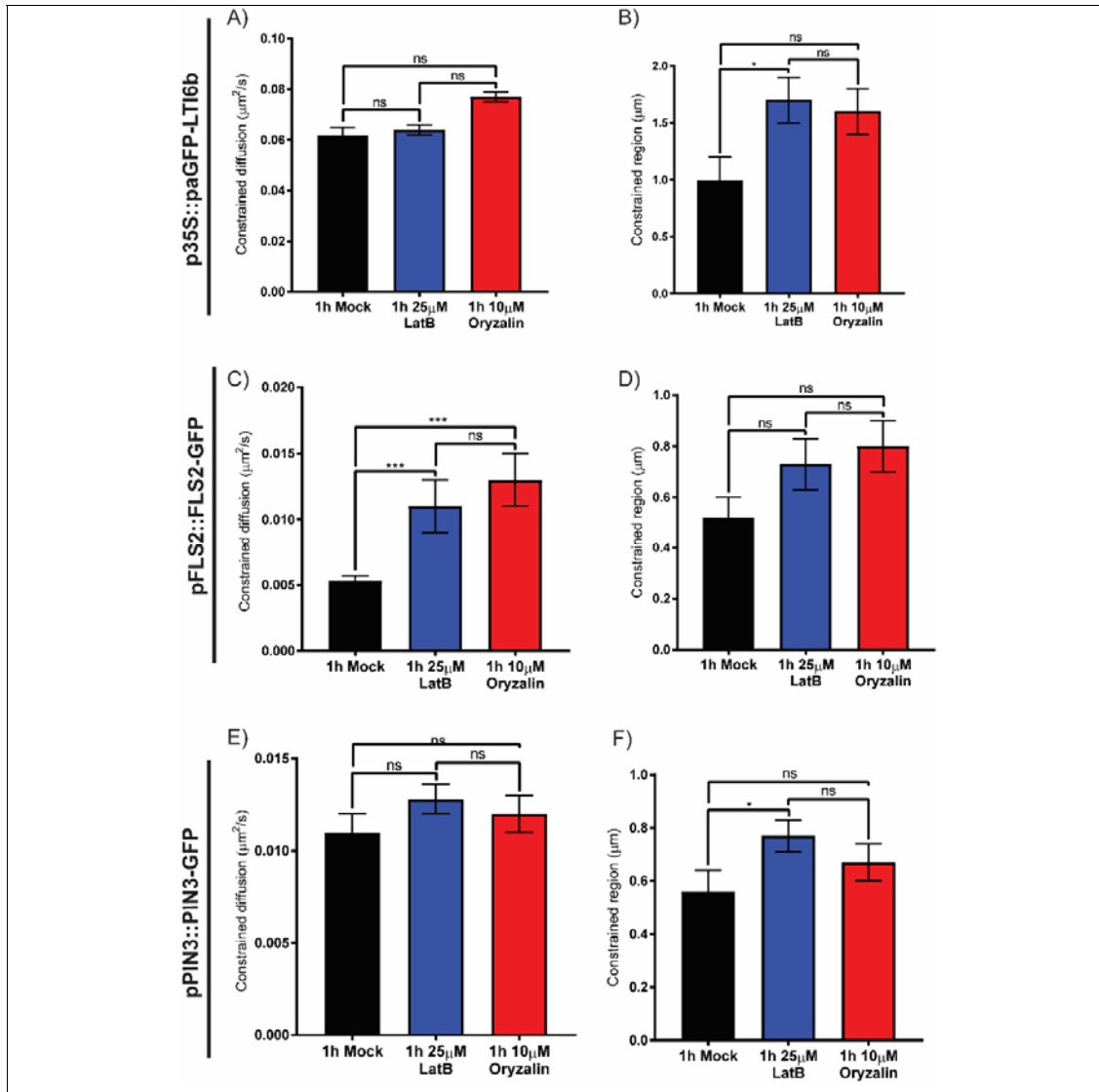


**Figure 2 TIRF single particle imaging of PM proteins**

A) TIRF single particle imaging of PM proteins in the hypocotyl membrane. Images show tracks followed by single labelled particles over 60s. Some proteins, e.g. FLS2-GFP are much more constrained in their lateral mobility than others. B) Mean Square Displacement curve for proteins. Curves that fall below a straight line corresponding to the initial gradient represent constrained diffusive movement. Error bars bootstrap-estimated standard deviation (see Methods). C) Constrained diffusion rate ( $\mu\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$ ) of proteins in the membrane. All proteins tested differ. D) Constrained region area ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) proteins occupy in the membrane. \* =  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\* =  $p < 0.01$ , ns = not significant.

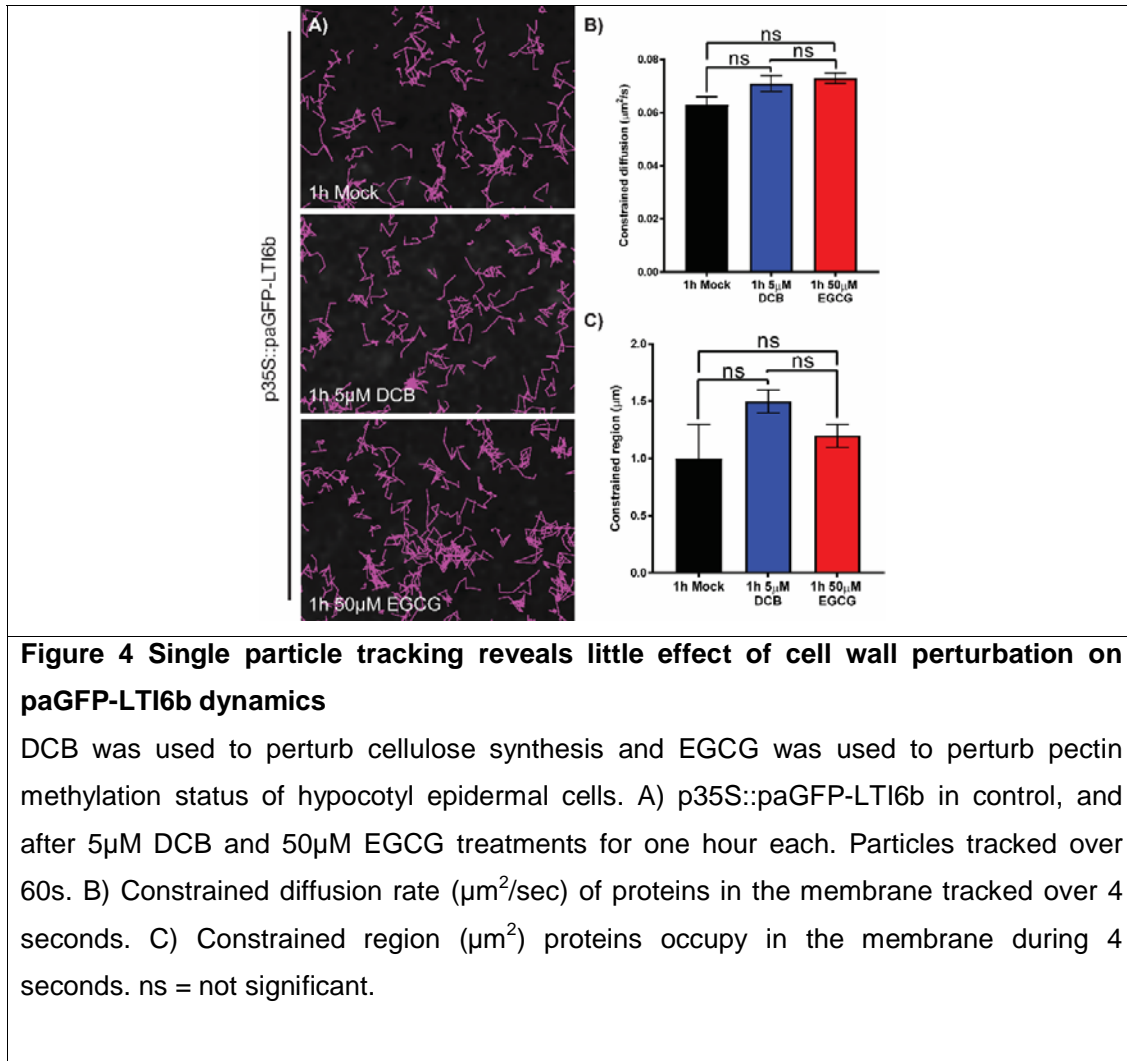
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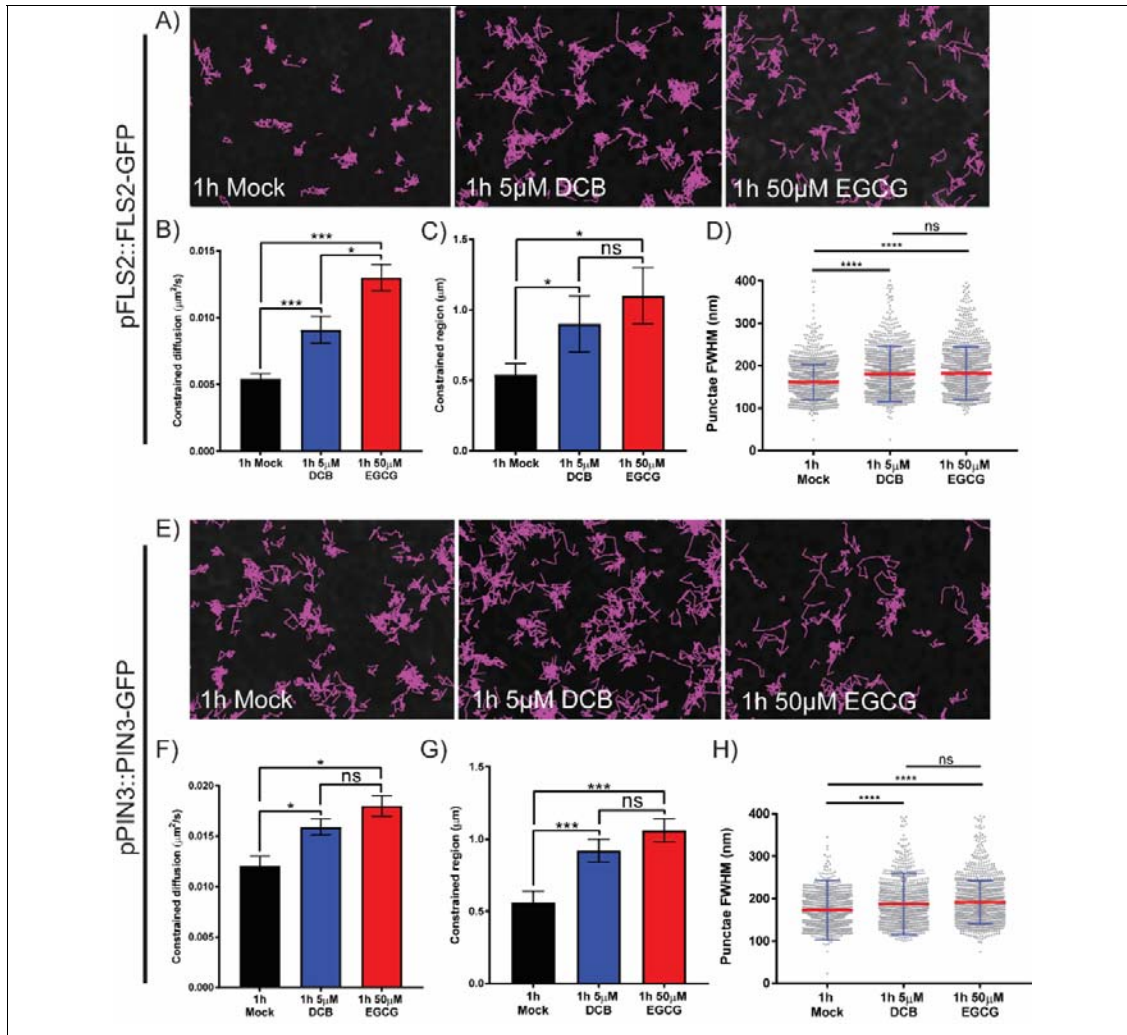


**Figure 3 Actin cytoskeleton regulates the mobility of FLS2-GFP in the membrane**

Plots show constrained diffusion rate (A, C, and E) and constrained area (B, D, and F) of single particles within the PM of hypocotyl epidermal cells in controls and after treatment with latrunculin B (LatB) and oryzalin to depolymerize the actin and microtubule cytoskeletons, respectively. A-B) p35S::paGFP-LTI6b, C-D) pFLS2::FLS2-GFP, and E-F) pPIN3::PIN3-GFP. FLS2-GFP becomes significantly more dynamic when either cytoskeleton is depolymerized. \* = p < 0.05, \*\*\* = p < 0.01.







**Figure 5 Cell wall perturbation alters diffusion rate, constrained area and cluster size of FLS2-GFP and PIN3-GFP**

DCB was used to perturb cellulose synthesis and EGCG was used to perturb pectin methylation status of hypocotyl epidermal cells. A-D) Nanodomain characteristics of pFLS2::FLS2-GFP in either controls, or after treatment with 5µM DCB or 50µM EGCG for one hour. A) Track length of single particles over 60s. B) Constrained diffusion rate over 4s. C) Constrained region area over 4s. D) FWHM measurement of cluster diameter. Box-and-whiskers plots. E-H) Nanodomain characteristics of pPIN3::PIN3-GFP in either controls, or after treatment with 5µM DCB or 50µM EGCG for one hour. A) Track length of single particles over 60s. B) Constrained diffusion rate over 4s. C) Constrained region area over 4s. D) FWHM measurement of cluster diameter. Box-and-whiskers plots. There was a significant increase or trend towards increase in all nanodomain characteristics after cell wall perturbation. \* =  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\* =  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*\* =  $p < 0.001$ .

580

581

582 **List of supplemental Materials**

583

- 584 1. **Supplementary Table 1** Number of tracks analysed per construct per treatment for  
585 single particle imaging
- 586 2. **Supplementary Table 2** Number of nanodomain punctae measured per construct per  
587 treatment for Airyscan imaging
- 588 3. **Supplemental Figure 1** Comparison of Confocal and Airyscan imaging of PM  
589 nanodomains
- 590 4. **Supplemental Figure 2** Instantaneous diffusion values for single particle tracking of  
591 PM proteins
- 592 5. **Supplemental Figure 3** Images and instantaneous diffusion values for p35S::  
593 paGFP-LTI6b, pPIN3::PIN3-GFP and pFLS2::FLS2-GFP during cytoskeleton  
594 perturbation
- 595 6. **Supplemental Figure 4** Plasmolysis causes changes in single particle dynamics for  
596 LTI6b, FLS2 and PIN3
- 597 7. **Supplemental Figure 5** Instantaneous diffusion values for p35S::paGFP-LTI6b,  
598 pPIN3::PIN3-GFP and pFLS2::FLS2-GFP during cell wall perturbation
- 599 8. **Supplemental Movie 1** Single particle tracking of LTI6b, PIP2A, FLS2 and PIN3  
600 shows they diffuse at different rates and occupy differing sized areas within the PM.
- 601 9. **Supplemental Movie 2** Single particle tracking of LTI6B, PIP2A, FLS2 and PIN3  
602 during mock, actin (Lat-B) and microtubule (Oryzalin) depolymerisation
- 603 10. **Supplemental Movie 3** Single particle tracking of LTI6b in the PM during cell wall  
604 perturbation
- 605 11. **Supplemental Movie 4** Single particle tracking of LTI6b in the PM during  
606 plasmolysis
- 607 12. **Supplemental Movie 5** Single particle tracking of FLS2 and PIN3 during cell wall  
608 perturbation.
- 609 13. **Supplemental Movie 6** Single particle tracking of FLS2 and PIN3 during  
610 plasmolysis.