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# The sorting of cargo proteins in the plant *trans*-Golgi network

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Membrane trafficking contributes to distinct protein compositions of organelles and is essential for proper organellar maintenance and functions. The *trans*-Golgi network (TGN) acts as a sorting station where various cargo proteins are sorted and directed to post-Golgi compartments, such as the multivesicular body or pre-vacuolar compartment, vacuoles, and plasma membrane. The spatial and temporal segregation of cargo proteins within the TGN, which is mediated with different sets of regulators including small GTPases and cargo adaptors, is a fundamental process in the sorting machinery. Recent studies with powerful imaging technologies have suggested that the TGN possesses spatially distinct subdomains or zones for different trafficking pathways. In this review, we will summarize the spatially and dynamically characteristic features of the plant TGN and their relation to cargo protein trafficking.

### KEYWORDS

*trans*-Golgi network, cargo proteins, spatiotemporal, membrane trafficking, RAB GTPase

### Introduction

Membrane trafficking tightly regulates protein localization among organelles and plays a fundamental role in numerous biological processes such as cell growth, development, and stress responses. It is an evolutionarily conserved system among eukaryotes and consists of four fundamental processes: (1) forming transport carriers and sorting cargo proteins on donor organelle membranes; (2) transporting the carriers from the donor to the target organelles; (3) tethering; and (4) fusing them with the target organelle membrane (Fujimoto and Ueda, 2012; Figure 1). These processes are conducted with conserved key regulators and effectors, such as ADP-ribosylation factor/Secretion-associated Ras-related (Arf/Sar) GTPases, coat proteins, RAB GTPases, and soluble N-ethylmaleimide-sensitive factor attachment protein receptors (SNAREs).

First, Arf/Sar GTPases activated by their guanine-nucleotide exchange factor (GEF) promote the recruitment of coat proteins on the donor membrane. Coat proteins play important roles in cargo protein recognition and membrane distortion (Singh and Jürgens, 2018; Arora and Van Damme, 2021; Law et al., 2022). RAB GTPases are involved in various trafficking events, such as tethering (Saito and Ueda, 2009; Minamino and Ueda, 2019). SNAREs mainly function in the last step and can be divided into two groups: target membrane-localized Q-SNAREs and transport carrier-localized R-SNAREs. A specific combination of three Q-SNAREs and one R-SNARE is thought to mediate the fusion



between the target membrane and transport carrier (Uemura and Ueda, 2014).

Biosynthetic trafficking starts in the endoplasmic reticulum (ER) where approximately one-third of proteins are synthesized. In normal anterograde membrane trafficking, the *cis* cisterna of the Golgi apparatus receives cargo proteins from the ER, whereas the *trans* cisterna sends them to their destinations, including the plasma membrane (PM) and vacuoles, via the *trans* Golgi network (TGN; Ito and Boutté, 2020; Figure 2). Therefore, the TGN lies in a branch of different trafficking routes and has long been suggested to be the site for cargo sorting. Recent studies have revealed that the TGN harbors spatially segregated functional subdomains or zones for differentially regulated trafficking routes (Heinze et al., 2020; Shimizu et al., 2021). In this review, we will summarize and discuss the recent discoveries that have been made on TGN-mediated trafficking.

### The trans-Golgi network

The TGN is generally recognized as a membranous structure at the *trans*-side of the Golgi apparatus (Griffiths and Simons, 1986; Ito and Boutté, 2020), which partially corresponds to the compartment previously proposed as the Golgi-associated structure that is a part of the ER and forms Lysosomes (GERL) in

the 1970s or termed the partially coated reticulum (PCR) in 1980s (Marty, 1978; Harris and Oparka, 1983; Pesacreta and Lucas, 1984; Staehelin et al., 1990). Morphologically distinct types of vesicles or multiple coat proteins have been found in the TGN, indicating that it is an important site for sorting cargo proteins with different destinations (Griffiths and Simons, 1986; Singh and Jürgens, 2018). Cargo proteins are thought to be transported from the Golgi to the TGN by the process of "cisternal maturation," which has been well-studied in budding yeast (Glick and Nakano, 2009). According to this model, the trans-most Golgi cisterna is the cargo carrier and matures into the TGN without packing cargo molecules into the nascent transport carrier. Therefore, the TGN plays an essential role in sorting mixtures of biosynthetic cargo proteins with different destinations, which are derived from the Golgi apparatus. In partial support of this hypothesis, a knockout mutant of a Golgi-localized putative GEF for RAB6 (termed the "loss of TGN," or LOT) was found to impair the biogenesis of the TGN, while the Golgi apparatus became over-stacked and elongated in Arabidopsis (Jia et al., 2018, 2019).

Interestingly, the plant TGN is a unique compartment that also functions as an early endosome where endocytosed molecules are first delivered. In a canonical model based on mammalian studies, endocytosed materials first reached the early endosome, which was physically separated from the TGN. They were then recycled back to the PM or redirected to lysosomes (Rohn et al.,



2000; Barlow and Dacks, 2018). In plant cells, however, the lipophilic fluorescent dye FM4-64, which is gradually internalized from the PM by the endocytic machinery, first reached the TGN before other endomembrane organelles (Dettmer et al., 2006; Lam et al., 2007; Chow et al., 2008). Endocytic cargo proteins, such as BRASSINOSTEROID INSENSITIVE1 and REQUIRES HIGH BORON1, have also been reported to pass through the TGN (Viotti et al., 2010). A recent study involving the budding yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* further reported that endocytosed FM4-64 first colocalized with the TGN marker (Day et al., 2018). These findings suggest that the TGN functions as an early endosome in plants and budding yeast and plays important roles not only in biosynthetic trafficking pathways, but also in endocytic trafficking pathways (Figure 2).

# Spatiotemporal characteristics of the TGN

Although the concept of the TGN as the sorting platform in post-Golgi membrane trafficking is widely accepted, the mechanisms by which the TGN directs multiple sorting events remain unknown. To do this, the TGN must pack cargos with different destinations into distinct vesicles and/or sort them into different subdomains or zones. Recent studies have revealed that the TGN harbors at least two distinct domains or zones for different trafficking pathways (Heinze et al., 2020; Shimizu et al., 2021; Figure 3).

In a branch of the post-Golgi trafficking pathways, R-SNAREs with different destinations, VAMP721 and VAMP727, localize to the TGN. VAMP721 functions in the trafficking to the PM and cell plate, whereas VAMP727 mainly functions in the trafficking in the vacuolar pathway (Ebine et al., 2008; Kwon et al., 2008; Zhang et al., 2011; El Kasmi et al., 2013). Recently, we used superresolution confocal live imaging microscopy (SCLIM) to reveal that VAMP721 and VAMP727 were spatially segregated as subdomains or zones, but not vesicles, within a single TGN (Shimizu et al., 2021). The VAMP721-localized subdomains and VAMP727-localized subdomains were proposed as the "secretorytrafficking zone" and "vacuolar-trafficking zone," respectively. A similar segregation pattern was also seen in multiple coat proteins. The localizations of TGN-resident coat proteins, including adaptor protein complex 1 (AP-1), AP-4, EPSIN1, MODIFIED TRANSPORT TO THE VACUOLE1 (MTV1), and clathrin, have been investigated by SCLIM or high-resolution Airyscan imaging (Heinze et al., 2020; Shimizu et al., 2021). The comprehensive analyses revealed that the secretory-trafficking zone was enriched with VAMP721, AP-1, EPSIN1, and clathrin, whereas the



vacuolar-trafficking zone was enriched with VAMP727, AP-4, and MTV1. Thus, secretory and vacuolar cargo proteins may be sorted via the spatially distinct zones within a single TGN.

In addition to its sub-organellar features, the plant TGN is classifiable at the spatiotemporal level. Fast live imaging by spinning disk confocal microscopy and 3D reconstruction by electron tomography have revealed that the plant TGN can dissociate from or associate with the Golgi apparatus (Staehelin and Kang, 2008; Viotti et al., 2010; Kang et al., 2011; Uemura et al., 2014). The canonical and non-canonical modes of the TGN have been termed as the Golgi-associated TGN (GA-TGN) and Golgiindependent TGN (free-TGN/GI-TGN), respectively. The detachment of the GI-TGN from the GA-TGN requires TGNap1, which likely functions as a linker between the TGN and microtubules (Renna et al., 2018). At the component level, the GA-TGN harbors VAMP721, or its close homolog VAMP722, and VAMP727. In contrast to the GA-TGN, the GI-TGN is enriched with VAMP721 and/or VAMP722, but not VAMP727, suggesting that the GI-TGN predominantly mediates secretory trafficking to the PM (Uemura et al., 2019). In the earlier stages (approximately 5 min after uptake), endocytosed FM4-64 colocalizes with the GA-TGN, AP-1, and AP-4, but not the GI-TGN (Uemura et al., 2019; Shimizu et al., 2021). These results highlight the importance

of the GA-TGN as a sorting hub for secretory, vacuolar, and endocytic trafficking. The GI-TGN further harbors both AP-1/ clathrin-coated and secretory vesicles, and the ratio of secretory vesicles to clathrin-coated vesicles can vary, even within single cells (Kang et al., 2011; Shimizu et al., 2021).

## Coat proteins at the TGN

Heterotetrameric AP complexes and clathrin are wellcharacterized coat proteins and function in post-Golgi membrane trafficking. Five AP complexes (AP-1–AP-5) are derived from a common ancestral complex and are thought to have been present in the last eukaryotic common ancestor (Hirst et al., 2011; Dacks and Robinson, 2017). Hence, they are evolutionarily conserved in eukaryotes. AP complexes typically consist of two large subunits ( $\beta$  and  $\alpha/\gamma/\delta/\epsilon/\zeta$ ), a medium subunit ( $\mu$ ), and a small subunit ( $\sigma$ ). They sort membrane-bound or transmembrane cargo proteins by recognizing and binding to sorting motifs or signals, such as the tyrosine motif, dileucine motif, and ubiquitin, which are present in the cytoplasmic domains of cargo proteins (Arora and Van Damme, 2021; Law et al., 2022). Various AP complexes interact with clathrin to form clathrin-coated vesicles. Well-established examples include AP-1/clathrin-coated vesicles (Park et al., 2013) and AP-2/clathrin-coated vesicles (Di Rubbo et al., 2013; Kim et al., 2013; Yamaoka et al., 2013). Each of the AP complexes functions in distinct trafficking pathways in eukaryotes. In *Arabidopsis*, both AP-1 and AP-4 function in the TGN (Park et al., 2013; Teh et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2013; Fuji et al., 2016).

AP-1 is essential for survival as  $ap1\gamma 1 ap1\gamma 2$  double mutants cannot be obtained (Wang et al., 2014). ap1µ2 (major isoform of AP-1 µ subunits) mutants have retarded growth and are unable to produce progenies (Park et al., 2013). In contrast to AP-4 as described below, AP-1 seems to play roles in a wide range of trafficking pathways and localizes to the TGN secretory-trafficking zone with VAMP721. For example, secretory invertase and GFP are not properly secreted into the extracellular medium, whereas the vacuolar proteins sporamin and ßFructosidase4 are unprocessed in ap1m2-1/hap13-1 protoplasts in Arabidopsis. Furthermore, PIN-FORMED2 (PIN2) polar recycling from the brefeldin A (BFA) compartment to the PM or vacuoles is compromised in ap1m2-1/hap13-1 seedlings. BRASSINOSTEROID INSENSITIVE1 recycling from the BFA compartment to the PM is also compromised in ap1m2-1/hap13-1 seedlings (Park et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2013). It has also been reported that the AP-1µ subunit can bind transmembrane receptors for vacuolar soluble proteins known as vacuolar sorting receptors (VSRs; Park et al., 2013; Gershlick et al., 2014; Nishimura et al., 2016). In addition, the trafficking of cytokinesis-specific SNARE KNOLLE/SYP111 to the cell plate is severely impaired, leading to incomplete cytokinesis (Park et al., 2013; Teh et al., 2013). Severe growth defects in ap1m2-1/hap13-1 mutants can be rescued by expressing functional AP1M2 with the KNOLLE/ SYP111 promoter as well as AP1M2 promoter (Teh et al., 2013; Shimada et al., 2018). Interestingly, outermost integument cells of the pKNOLLE:AP1M2-GFP-rescued ap1m2-1/hap13-1 seed lack AP1M2 expression and exhibit reduced mucilage extrusion and its abnormal accumulation in vacuoles. This suggests that AP-1 is also involved in the secretory trafficking of macromolecules and cargo proteins (Shimada et al., 2018). Furthermore, the disruption of AP-1 function has been found to reduce the PM association of AP-2, clathrin, and the clathrin adaptor TPLATE complex. This impairs clathrin-mediated endocytosis and vice versa (Yan et al., 2021). Therefore, AP-1/clathrin-mediated trafficking from the TGN and AP-2/clathrin-mediated trafficking from the PM couple by unknown mechanisms. AP-1 is therefore involved in the secretory, vacuolar, and recycling trafficking pathways, although it remains unclear how AP-1 can manage such complicated sorting events.

Furthermore, we have assessed the role of AP-1 from the spatiotemporal perspective. SCLIM observations have revealed that AP-1- and clathrin-labeled compartments leave the GA-TGN with SYNTAXIN OF PLANTS61 (SYP61) as components of the GI-TGN, while AP-4 seems to stay with the GA-TGN (Shimizu et al., 2021). Electron tomography has further revealed that the GI-TGN harbors clathrin-coated and secretory vesicles (Kang et al., 2011). These findings suggest that AP-1/clathrin-coated

vesicles may function in the GI-TGN. Intriguingly, Yan et al. recently reported that the TGN-resident SNAREs SYP41 and SYP61, but not VHAa1, were significantly dissociated from the TGN and mislocalized to the PM in ap1m2/hap13 root cells. This suggests that AP-1 is responsible for maintaining the functional integrity of the TGN (Yan et al., 2021). In support of this hypothesis, ap1m2-1/hap13-1 mutants have been found to exhibit abnormal morphologies in the Golgi and TGN (Park et al., 2013). It has also been reported that SYP4s and SYP61 regulate both secretory and vacuolar trafficking (Bassham et al., 2000; Uemura et al., 2012; Hachez et al., 2014; Lu et al., 2020). These findings indicate the possibility that AP-1/clathrin-coated vesicles may deliver TGN-resident proteins and missorted vacuolar proteins from the GI-TGN to the GA-TGN or Golgi apparatus. Recent studies involving budding yeast have further reported that AP-1 plays a role in the retrograde transport of cargo proteins from mature to young Golgi cisternae (Casler et al., 2019, 2022; Casler and Glick, 2020). It should be noted that, although the mechanisms are unknown, the quantity of GA-TGN-localized proteins seems to be maintained at a relatively stable level, as the fluorescence of TGN markers, including SYP43 and SYP61, seems to be recovered around the GA-TGN region after producing the GI-TGN (Uemura et al., 2014; Shimizu et al., 2021).

In a forward genetic screen in Arabidopsis, AP-4 components were reported to be responsible for the vacuolar sorting of GFP-CT24, which is an artificial cargo protein with β-conglycininderived vacuolar targeting signals (Fuji et al., 2007, 2016). The tonoplast proteins molybdate transporter 2 and natural resistance macrophage protein 3 and 4 were missorted to the PM in ap4m mesophyll protoplasts (Müdsam et al., 2018). In addition, the µ subunit of AP-4 and that of AP-1 mentioned above have been found to bind to the tyrosine motifs of VSR1 and VSR2 (Gershlick et al., 2014; Fuji et al., 2016). Given that the putative cargo VAMP727 mainly functions in the multivesicular body (MVB; Ebine et al., 2008) and that the VSR-mediated trafficking pathway relies on the MVB to deliver cargo proteins to vacuoles, AP-4 likely functions as a gatekeeper in the pathway from the TGN to MVB, although it remains controversial where VSR itself travels (Ivanov and Robinson, 2020). MTV1, an accessory protein of AP-4, has also been identified as a responsible gene for the vacuolar trafficking of the artificial cargo protein VAC2 (Sauer et al., 2013). Thus, genetic and biochemical analyses support the role of AP-4 in vacuolar trafficking. The question remains as to whether plant AP-4 is a component of clathrin-coated vesicles in vivo. Coimmunoprecipitation assays have shown that the µ subunit of AP-4 immunoprecipitates clathrin heavy chains (Fuji et al., 2016; Shimizu et al., 2021). However, SCLIM observations of Arabidopsis root cells have shown that AP-4 is segregated from clathrin as opposed to AP-1 (Shimizu et al., 2021). Recently, Dahhan et al. characterized the proteome of purified plant clathrin-coated vesicles and found that AP-4 was enriched in the clathrin-coated vesicle fraction (Dahhan et al., 2022). Thus, it remains controversial whether clathrin is required for plant AP-4mediated trafficking in vivo. The way in which AP-4 localizes to

the TGN also remains unknown. Although the ARF-GEFs BIG1– BIG4 and ARF1 have been shown to recruit AP-1 to the TGN membrane (Richter et al., 2014; Singh et al., 2018), it is unclear which ARF-GEFs and ARFs are required for localizing AP-4 to the TGN.

Several vacuolar proteins are transported to vacuoles independently of MVB-mediated pathways. A striking example is the AP-3-dependent pathway. The vacuolar membrane targeting of VAMP711/VAMP713 and PROTEIN S-ACYL TRANSFERASE10 is mediated by AP-3 independent of the MVB-pathway requiring RAB5 (Ebine et al., 2014; Feng et al., 2018). Studies in mammalian models have reported that AP-3 sorts lysosomal cargo proteins in the TGN and endosomes (Peden et al., 2004; Huang et al., 2019). However, it remains unclear whether plant AP-3 constitutes a distinct zone within the TGN like AP-1 and AP-4 since the localization of AP-3 is not well defined. Fluorescent protein-labeled AP-3 exhibits a relatively high degree of colocalization with the Golgi markers WAVE22/ SYP32 and TGN marker VHAa1 (Feng et al., 2017). Studies on mammalian cells and the biochemical interactions of plant AP-3 with clathrin (Zwiewka et al., 2011) may confuse the precise interpretation of AP-3 localization in plant cells. Intriguingly, PROTEIN S-ACYL TRANSFERASE10 seems to be retained in the Golgi but not TGN in  $ap3\delta$  mutants, suggesting that AP-3 sorts vacuolar cargo proteins at the Golgi apparatus rather than the TGN (Feng et al., 2018). Further investigations on AP-3 localization will contribute to a better understanding why and how vacuolar trafficking is regulated by different components.

# Complicated secretory trafficking from the TGN

The studies on secretory-trafficking and vacuolar-trafficking zones marked with VAMP721 and VAMP727, respectively, appear to be oversimplified. For example, there are two different routes from the TGN to the PM. The most striking discovery is that the polar recycling of PIN1 to the basal PM is regulated by ARF-GEF GNOM, whereas the recycling of apical, lateral, and nonpolar PM proteins is regulated by RABA2a (Geldner et al., 2003; Li et al., 2017). In these studies, BFA and Endosidin16, chemical inhibitors of membrane trafficking, are used as a powerful tool to dissect the different trafficking routes. BFA binds between the GDP-bound ARF/SAR and its GEF, thereby blocking a subset of secretion from the Golgi and/or TGN and early secretory trafficking from the ER to the Golgi (Jackson and Casanova, 2000). Endosidin16 compromises RABA2A-mediated trafficking from the TGN (Li et al., 2017). It should be noted that the establishment and maintenance of PIN polarity are coordinated by endocytosis and polar recycling (Geldner et al., 2003; Men et al., 2008; Kitakura et al., 2011; Glanc et al., 2018), as well as the de novo delivery of PIN2 (Wattelet-Boyer et al., 2016).

Rodriguez-Furlan *et al.* recently reported that newly synthesized INFLORESCENCE AND ROOT APICES

RECEPTOR KINASE (IRK) and KINASE ON THE INSIDE (KOIN) are sorted at the TGN by different machineries and transported to the opposite sides (i.e., outer and inner sides, respectively) of the root endodermal PM. These different de novo pathways have also been demonstrated using BFA and Endosidin16 in combination with or without the protein synthesis inhibitor cycloheximide. Trafficking of IRK is compromised with BFA but not Endosidin16, whereas that of KOIN is sensitive to Endosidin16 but not BFA (Rodriguez-Furlan et al., 2022). Interestingly, the PM targeting of both IRK and KOIN is also compromised with Endosidin2 (Rodriguez-Furlan et al., 2022). Endosidin2 inhibits exocytosis by binding the EXOCYST subunit EXO70A1 that plays important roles in targeted secretion and tethering at the PM (Zhang et al., 2016). These results suggest that IRK and KOIN are sorted into distinct trafficking pathways at the TGN; however, they are regulated by EXOCYST-mediated tethering mechanisms on the way to and/or at the PM. As some cargo proteins are exported from the TGN by different machinery, so some cargo proteins are regulated by distinct tethering and SNARE proteins on the target membrane. Plasma membranelocalized Q-SNAREs SYP121/ PEN1 (PENETRATION1) and SYP122 have partially redundant functions, since *syp121 syp122* double mutants display growth defects that are not observed in either single mutant (Collins et al., 2003; Assaad et al., 2004; Zhang et al., 2007). However, mass spectrometry analysis using the *syp121* and *syp122* mutants revealed that SYP121 and SYP122 mediate the secretion of partially overlapping but distinct sets of distinct cargo proteins (Waghmare et al., 2018). Other studies also show that K<sup>+</sup> channels bind selectively to SYP121 but not SYP122 (Honsbein et al., 2009, 2011; Grefen et al., 2010). The RABA2adependent and RABE1-EXOCYST-dependent secretory pathways, which coexist in Arabidopsis, have been also proposed (Pang et al., 2022). Given these studies, the secretory-trafficking zone of the TGN may further be classified into the sub-zone level or the single-vesicle level.

## Discussion

It is now clear that the plant TGN is the central hub of secretory, vacuolar, and endocytic trafficking. Accumulating evidence suggests that the TGN can be divided into subdomains or zones where distinct trafficking events are executed. Such subdomain/zone-like segregation has been seen in various TGN-localized proteins including coat proteins, SNAREs, and tethering factors (Bassham et al., 2000; Chow et al., 2008; Gendre et al., 2011, 2013; Boutté et al., 2013; Wattelet-Boyer et al., 2016; Ravikumar et al., 2018; Renna et al., 2018; Heinze et al., 2020; Shimizu et al., 2021). However, it remains poorly understood how these subdomains or zones are organized. Lipid composition of the organelle membrane can regulate protein localization and thus plays an important role in endomembrane trafficking and diverse cellular functions (Bigay and Antonny, 2012; Holthuis and Menon, 2014; Boutté and Jaillais, 2020). Interestingly, it has been reported

that  $\alpha$ -hydroxylated-very long chain fatty acid-containing sphingolipids are specifically enriched in the immunoisolated SYP61-, but not RABA2a-, localized TGN (Wattelet-Boyer et al., 2016). Pharmacological reduction of very long chain fatty acidcontaining sphingolipids disturbs the polar delivery of PIN2 (Wattelet-Boyer et al., 2016). Furthermore,  $\alpha$ -hydroxylated-very long chain fatty acids are involved in regulating the quantity of phosphatidylinositol 4-phosphate (PI4P) in the TGN (Ito et al., 2021). In plant cells, PI4P mainly accumulates at the PM and to a lesser extent at the TGN. TGN-localized phosphatidylinositol 4-kinases  $pi4k\beta1$   $pi4k\beta2$  double mutants have the abnormal TGN with highly variable sizes of secretory vesicles and exhibit pleiotropic growth defects (Preuss et al., 2006; Kang et al., 2011; Sašek et al., 2014; Antignani et al., 2015; Lin et al., 2019). In Arabidopsis, ARF-GAP VASCULAR NETWORK DEFECTIVE3 and RABA4b effector PLANT U-BOX13 have been shown to bind PI4P and to localize to the TGN (Koizumi et al., 2005; Naramoto et al., 2009; Antignani et al., 2015). It has also been reported that the mammalian AP-1 complex binds PI4P (Wang et al., 2003). Therefore, distinct lipid environments likely serve as platforms for organizing subdomains or zones in the TGN, which will be investigated in the near future. To better understand sub-organellar features, cutting-edge imaging technologies are essential. For example, correlative light and electron microscopy will fill the gaps in the current knowledge on morphological features and fluorescence-based protein localization (Wang and Kang, 2020). In addition, to better understand how cargo proteins are sorted into specific TGN subdomains/zones, we should evaluate the association between the organization of trafficking zones and cargo flow. Because the passage of cargo proteins is transient, it is necessary to establish a pulse-chase-type experimental system. Several methods have been proposed and successfully applied in other organisms, such as retention using a selective hooks system in mammalian cultured cells (Boncompain et al., 2012) and a temperature-controlled system in budding yeast (Kurokawa et al., 2014). However, such systems have not yet been established in plant cells. Given that membrane trafficking appears

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to be intricately regulated during developmental processes and environmental changes, it is important to investigate how cargo proteins are transported in various conditions.

# Author contributions

YS and TU wrote and edited the manuscript and prepared the figure. All authors contributed to the article and approved the submitted version.

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# Conflict of interest

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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