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4 **Author for Contact:** Julia M. Davies

5 **Article title:** Phosphate starvation alters abiotic-stress-induced cytosolic free calcium increases in
6 roots

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14 **One-sentence summary:** Phosphate starvation, but not nitrogen starvation, changes the cytosolic
15 free calcium signatures of *Arabidopsis thaliana* roots in response to mechanical, salt, osmotic, and
16 oxidative stress, as well as to extracellular nucleotides.

17 **Author contributions:** E.M. and J.M.D. conceived the project. E.M., K.A.W., S.M.S., F.G.D., A.C., and
18 J.M.D. designed the experiments. E.M., F.G.D. and N.H.D. carried out the experiments and analyzed
19 the data. E.M. and J.M.D. wrote the article with contributions from all the authors. J.M.D. agrees to
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34 **ABSTRACT**

35 Phosphate (Pi) deficiency strongly limits plant growth, and plant roots foraging the soil for nutrients
36 need to adapt to optimize Pi uptake. Ca^{2+} is known to signal in root development and adaptation but
37 has to be tightly controlled as it is highly toxic to Pi metabolism. Under Pi starvation and the
38 resulting decreased cellular Pi pool, the use of cytosolic free Ca^{2+} ($[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$) as a signal transducer may
39 therefore have to be altered. Employing aequorin-expressing Arabidopsis (*Arabidopsis thaliana*), we
40 show that Pi starvation, but not nitrogen starvation, strongly dampens the $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$ increases evoked
41 by mechanical, salt, osmotic, and oxidative stress as well as by extracellular nucleotides. The altered
42 root $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$ response to extracellular ATP manifests during seedling development under chronic Pi
43 deprivation but can be reversed by Pi resupply. Employing ratiometric imaging, we delineate that Pi-
44 starved roots have a normal response to extracellular ATP at the apex but show a strongly
45 dampened $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$ response in distal parts of the root tip, correlating with high reactive oxygen
46 species (ROS) levels induced by Pi starvation. Excluding iron, as well as Pi, rescues this altered
47 $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$ response and restores ROS levels to those seen under nutrient-replete conditions. These
48 results indicate that, while Pi availability does not seem to be signalled through $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$, Pi starvation
49 strongly affects stress-induced $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$ signatures. The data reveal how plants can integrate
50 nutritional and environmental cues, adding another layer of complexity to the use of Ca^{2+} as a signal
51 transducer.

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55 INTRODUCTION

56 Plant roots foraging in the soil have to sense, transduce, and respond to fluctuations in water and
57 nutrients, plus a multitude of stresses they may additionally be subjected to. Plants employ a wide
58 range of signal transducers, with free calcium ion (Ca^{2+}) being a common second messenger in the
59 response to stress stimuli. Biotic and abiotic stresses (including mechanical, salt, osmotic, and
60 oxidative stress) trigger rapid and transient modulations in cytosolic and organellar free Ca^{2+} (Knight
61 et al., 1991, 1992, 1997; Kiegle, C. Moore, et al., 2000; Monshausen et al., 2009; Loro et al., 2012;
62 Bonza et al., 2013; Laohavisit et al., 2013; Loro et al., 2016; Behera et al., 2018; Manishankar et al.,
63 2018). These “ Ca^{2+} signatures” are held to be specific to the stimulus and result in stimulus-specific
64 outcomes, enabled by suites of decoding proteins (Whalley et al., 2011; Whalley and Knight, 2013;
65 Liu et al., 2015; Lenzoni et al., 2017).

66 Recently, Ca^{2+} has been described as also functioning in signalling nutrient status and availability. In
67 the model plant *Arabidopsis* (*Arabidopsis thaliana*), nitrate resupply to initially nitrate-starved roots
68 prompted a rapid (within seconds) and monophasic increase in cytosolic free Ca^{2+} ($[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$), followed
69 by an increase in nuclear $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$ (Riveras et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2017). Potassium (K^+) deficiency was
70 found to trigger two distinct $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$ elevations within the *Arabidopsis* root, the first response
71 occurring within 1 to 4 minutes, and the second response within 18 to 32 hours after onset of K^+
72 deficiency (Behera et al., 2017). $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$ signalling was further found to be necessary for vacuolar
73 magnesium (Mg^{2+}) detoxification in a high Mg^{2+} environment (Tang et al., 2015).

74 Another nutrient of great importance for optimal plant growth is inorganic phosphate (Pi). Pi-limited
75 conditions are known to induce profound changes in plant growth and metabolism. On a systemic
76 level, root growth is favored over shoot growth, indicative of maximizing soil exploration and, thus,
77 nutrient uptake (Gruber et al., 2013). In addition, root system architecture is remodelled, which has
78 been well described in many crop species, such as barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), maize (*Zea mays*), rice,
79 (*Oryza sativa*) and tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*), as well as *Arabidopsis* (Peret et al., 2014).
80 Multicomponent nutrient studies found Pi to be the predominant nutrient controlling primary root
81 length (Gruber et al., 2013; Kellermeier et al., 2014). On a cellular level, metabolism shifts to
82 alternative pathways that consume less Pi (Pratt et al., 2009; Plaxton and Tran, 2011; Nakamura,
83 2013; Pant et al., 2015). The Pi deficiency response is orchestrated by intricate signalling networks,
84 involving hormones, nutrient crosstalk, and transcriptional and translational feedback loops
85 (reviewed by e.g. Abel, 2017; Chien et al., 2018). Ca^{2+} has been hypothesized to be involved as a
86 signal transducer (Chiou and Lin, 2011; Linn et al., 2017; Chien et al., 2018), but this has not been
87 confirmed to date.

88 While the involvement of Ca^{2+} as a second messenger in nutrient signalling is now beginning to be
89 explored, few studies have examined the impact of nutrient deficiency on Ca^{2+} signalling per se.
90 Boron-deprived tobacco BY-2 cells (expressing cytosolic aequorin as a luminometric reporter of
91 $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$) sustained an enhanced $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$ signature when challenged with 3 mM Ca^{2+} compared to
92 boron-replete cells (Koshiba et al., 2010). Boron deficiency caused an increase in steady-state
93 $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$ of *Arabidopsis* roots, but the consequences for stress-induced Ca^{2+} signatures were not
94 examined (Quiles-Pando et al., 2013).

95 Thus, we set out to test how Pi starvation of *Arabidopsis* might influence the root's use of Ca^{2+} as a
96 signal, employing a range of abiotic stresses known to evoke robust, rapid, and transient $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$
97 signatures (mechanical, salt, osmotic, and oxidative stress). Additionally, as mechanical stimulation,
98 salt, and osmotic stress increase the accumulation of extracellular adenosine 5'-triphosphate (eATP;
99 Weerasinghe et al., 2009; Dark et al., 2011), which in turn transiently increases $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$ (Demidchik

100 et al., 2003; Tanaka et al., 2010; Costa et al., 2013; Choi et al., 2014), we also tested the root
101 response to extracellular purine nucleotides.

102 We show that Pi starvation, but not nitrogen (N) starvation, strongly altered $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signatures in
103 response to all abiotic stresses and extracellular nucleotides tested. Furthermore, Pi-starved root
104 apices of Arabidopsis showed a distinct spatiotemporal $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to eATP. This was
105 remodelled during development and was dependent on iron (Fe) availability and reactive oxygen
106 species (ROS) production but could be reversed by Pi resupply. The data reveal how nutritional
107 status adds another so far unexplored level of complexity to the use of $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ as a signal transducer
108 and further our understanding of how plants integrate various environmental cues.

109

111 **RESULTS**

112 **Pi, but not N, starvation dampens the $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to abiotic stresses in Arabidopsis root tips**

113 To determine if Pi starvation alters stress-induced $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signatures, Arabidopsis seedlings
114 ubiquitously expressing cytosolic (apo)aequorin were grown on Pi-replete conditions (0.625 mM
115 KH_2PO_4 , “full Pi”), lowered Pi conditions (0.1 mM KH_2PO_4 , “medium Pi”), or chronically starved of Pi
116 (0 mM KH_2PO_4 , “zero Pi”). As has been reported previously (Williamson et al., 2001; Svistoonoff et
117 al., 2007; Balzergue et al., 2017), Pi starvation for 10 days led to significantly shorter primary roots
118 (mean root length \pm standard error of means; full Pi: 6.01 ± 0.06 cm; medium Pi: 4.42 ± 0.04 cm; zero
119 Pi: 2.69 ± 0.04 cm, p -value < 0.001 for all comparisons; Supplemental Table S1). To account for
120 differences in root growth and architecture induced by Pi growth regime, a fixed length of the
121 primary root (the first 1 cm from the apex) from an 11-day-old seedling was challenged with acute
122 abiotic stress and aequorin luminescence was recorded every second for 155 seconds (Fig. 1). As the
123 experimental setup necessitates the injection of treatment solutions, control solution treatments
124 were run with every set of experiments to control for the effect of mechanical stimulation.

125 An immediate and monophasic increase in $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ was observed upon mechanical stimulation
126 (application of control solution, Fig. 1A-C), salt stress (150 mM NaCl, Fig. 1D-F), or an equivalent
127 osmotic stress (280 mM D-sorbitol, Fig. 1G-I). The response to mechanical stimulation was variable
128 in root tips of all Pi growth conditions, likely due to limitations of the experimental setup, but
129 overall, the Pi-starved root tip response was significantly lower. The response to salt and osmotic
130 stress was as immediate as the response to mechanical stimulation, but of much greater amplitude
131 and duration in root tips from all Pi growth conditions. In all cases, Pi starvation significantly
132 dampened the stress-induced $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response (as quantified by peak maxima (Fig. 1B, E, H) and
133 area under the curve (as a proxy of how much $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ was mobilized upon stress treatment; Fig. 1C,
134 F, I, see Supplemental Fig. S1 for details). For all stress experiments, Pi-replete root tips showed the
135 strongest $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response, medium Pi root tips showed a moderately dampened $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response,
136 and Pi-starved root tips showed the most strongly impaired $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response.

137 To test if this dampened $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response were specific to Pi nutrition or due to a more general
138 nutrient deficiency response, we trialled root tips starved of another macronutrient, nitrogen (N).
139 Primary root lengths of severely N-starved plants (0 mM N) were comparable to zero-Pi-grown roots
140 (zero N: 2.5 ± 0.13 cm, $p = 0.203$, Supplemental Table S1). However, N-starved root tips showed a
141 $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to mechanical stimulation, salt, and osmotic stress, which was similar to nutrient-
142 replete root tips (Supplemental Fig. S2). These results indicate that Pi nutrition specifically alters the
143 $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to abiotic stresses.

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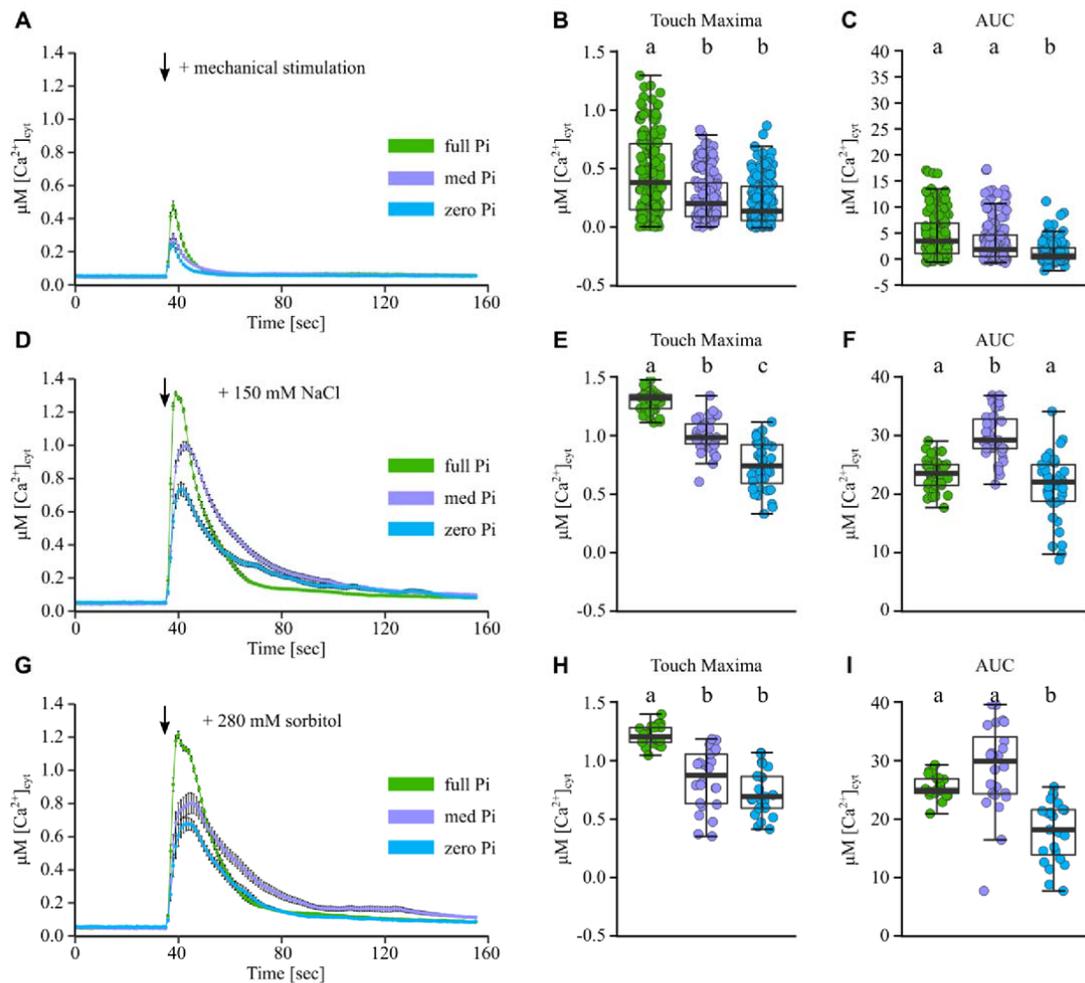


Figure 1. Pi-starved root tips have a dampened $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to mechanical, salt and osmotic stress. Arabidopsis Col-0 aequorin-expressing seedlings were grown on full, medium (med) or zero Pi (green, purple, blue trace respectively). Individual root tips (1 cm) of 11-day old seedlings were challenged with treatments applied at 35 seconds (black arrow), and $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ was measured for 155 seconds. (A) Mechanical stimulation (control solution); time course trace represents mean \pm standard error of mean (SEM) from 18 independent trials, with $n = 150 - 155$ root tips per growth condition averaged per data point. Time course data were analysed for (B) Touch Maxima and (C) area under the response curve (AUC), both baseline-subtracted, with each dot representing an individual data point (see Supplemental Fig. S1 for analysis details). Boxplot middle line denotes median. (D-F) Responses to 150 mM NaCl (3 independent trials, $n = 35 - 36$ root tips). (G-I) Responses to 280 mM sorbitol (3 independent trials, $n = 22 - 24$ root tips). Analysis of variance (ANOVA) with *post-hoc* Tukey Test was used to assess statistical differences, different lower-case letters denote significant differences ($p < 0.05$).

149 **Pi starvation alters the root tip $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to extracellular nucleotides and ROS**

150 Mechanical stimulation, salt, and osmotic stress are known to evoke the accumulation of
 151 extracellular ATP (eATP), which in turn triggers increases in ROS (Kim et al., 2006; Song et al., 2006;
 152 Demidchik et al., 2009, 2011; Chen et al., 2017), and ROS such as hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) induce
 153 $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ increases (Price et al., 1994; Rentel and Knight, 2004; Demidchik et al., 2007; Richards et al.,
 154 2014). Therefore, we next challenged aequorin-expressing root tips from 11-day-old seedlings,
 155 grown on full/medium/zero Pi conditions, with 0.1 or 1 mM eATP. eATP treatment evoked robust
 156 multiphasic $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ increases in full Pi-grown root tips (Fig. 2), as reported previously (Demidchik et

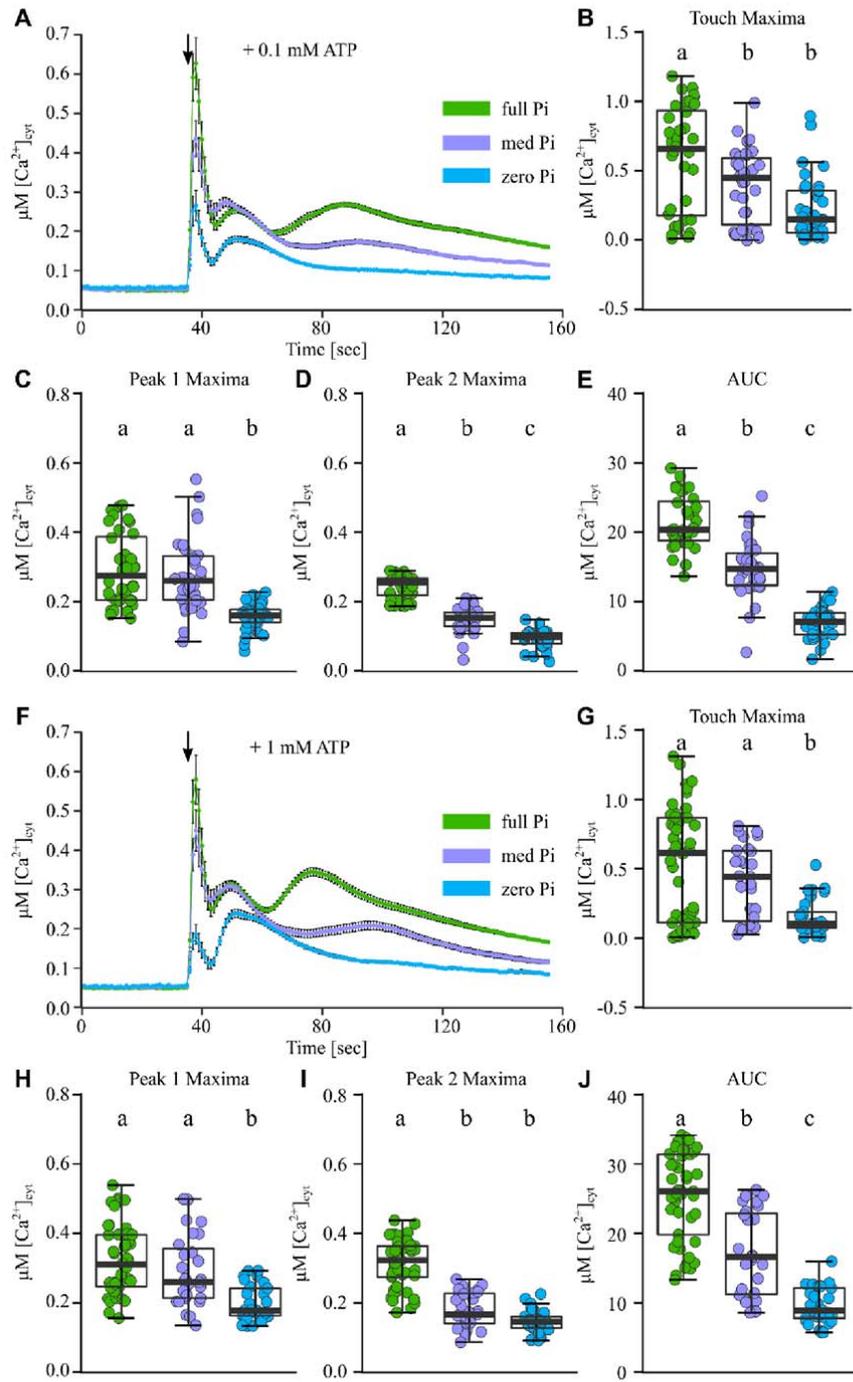


Figure 2. Pi-starved root tips show a dampened $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to extracellular ATP. Arabidopsis Col-0 aequorin-expressing seedlings were grown on full, medium (med) or zero Pi (green, purple, blue trace respectively). Individual root tips (1 cm) of 11-day old seedlings were challenged with treatments applied at 35 seconds (black arrow), and $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ was measured for 155 seconds. (A) Treatment with 0.1 mM ATP; time course trace represents mean \pm standard error of mean (SEM) from 6 independent trials, with $n = 34 - 36$ individual root tips averaged per data point. Time course data were analysed for (B) Touch Maxima, (C) Peak 1 Maxima and (D) Peak 2 Maxima, (E) area under the response curve (AUC), all baseline-subtracted, with each dot representing an individual data point (see Supplementary

Fig. S1 for analysis details). Boxplot middle line denotes median. (F-J) Responses to 1 mM ATP (5 independent trials, $n = 27 - 45$ root tips per growth condition). Analysis of variance (ANOVA) with *post-hoc* Tukey Test was used to assess statistical differences, different lower-case letters denote significant differences ($p < 0.05$).

157 al., 2003; Tanaka et al., 2010). The different phases of the response were classified as an immediate
 158 'touch response' (0 – 6 seconds after treatment application), followed by 'peak 1' (7 – 28 seconds
 159 after treatment application) and subsequent 'peak 2' (29 – 120 seconds after treatment application,
 160 see Supplemental Fig. S1 for details). The touch response elicited by eATP was variable but overall

161 not significantly different to application of control solution alone (see Fig. 1A) and was
162 nonresponsive to an increase in eATP concentration (Fig. 2B: 0.1 mM eATP, Fig. 2G: 1 mM eATP),
163 indicating that this initial response was due to mechanical stimulation of treatment application
164 rather than eATP perception.

165 In contrast, the subsequent $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ increases (defined as peak 1 and peak 2) were specific to eATP
166 treatment, and their magnitude was dependent on root Pi status. Peak 1 maxima were similar
167 between full Pi- and medium Pi-grown root tips but significantly dampened in zero-Pi-grown root
168 tips in response to 0.1 mM ATP (Fig. 2C) and 1 mM ATP (Fig. 2H). Peak 2 maxima were significantly
169 dampened in medium Pi root tips compared to full Pi root tips, with zero Pi root tips mostly lacking
170 any apparent $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ increase within that phase (Fig. 2D, I). Overall, the more Pi-starved the roots,
171 the less $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ was mobilized in response to eATP (based on the area under the response curves,
172 Fig. 2E, J). While increasing the eATP concentration 10-fold (from 0.1 mM to 1 mM eATP)
173 significantly increased the $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ mobilized of full Pi root tips, medium and zero Pi root tips were
174 insensitive to an increase in eATP concentration.

175 As up to 2 mM Pi could potentially be liberated readily from 1 mM eATP, and this Pi pulse itself
176 might evoke a $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response, we treated root tips with a Pi source alone. Application of 2 mM Pi
177 led to a rapid and monophasic increase in $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$, very similar in shape, duration, and amplitude to
178 control solution treatment across all three Pi growth regimes (Supplemental Fig. S3). This indicated
179 that under the Pi starvation conditions tested, Pi alone did not trigger an increase in $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$, in
180 contrast to what had been reported for nitrate resupply in a similar setup (Riveras et al., 2015). To
181 further test if ATP hydrolysis played a role in the differing $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signatures, adenosine 5'-
182 diphosphate (ADP) and a nonhydrolyzable ATP analog (adenosine 5'-[γ -thio]triphosphate
183 tetralithium, γ -ATP) were applied to root tips from the different Pi growth regimes. ADP and γ -ATP
184 treatment (1 mM) resulted in $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signatures strikingly similar to those observed with 1 mM eATP
185 treatment (Supplemental Fig. S4 and S5), indicating that ATP hydrolysis could not mechanistically
186 explain the altered $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signature of Pi-starved roots.

187 Next, we applied ROS, as 1 and 5 mM H_2O_2 , to excised root tips. This treatment induced a rapid
188 increase in $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ followed by a pronounced secondary increase (Supplemental Fig. S6). Full-Pi- and
189 medium-Pi-grown root tips showed a similar $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response, while zero-Pi-grown root apices
190 showed a significantly dampened secondary response to both H_2O_2 concentrations tested
191 (Supplemental Fig. S6). N-starved root apices did not show a dampened response to either 1 mM
192 eATP (Supplemental Fig. S7) or 1 mM H_2O_2 (Supplemental Fig. S8), again indicating that the severely
193 altered $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signature observed in Pi-starved roots was not a general response to nutrient
194 starvation, but a consequence specific to Pi nutrition.

195 **Pi-starved roots respond to eATP at the root apex, but a secondary $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response in the distal** 196 **region is lost**

197 As the aequorin-based $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ determinations did not allow spatial resolution, we employed
198 ratiometric imaging to map the $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response of the root. Arabidopsis Col-0 constitutively
199 expressing the ratiometric $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ reporter Yellow Cameleon YC3.6 (NES-YC3.6, Krebs et al., 2012)
200 was grown on full Pi or zero Pi, and intact 10-day-old plants were mounted into a custom-built
201 perfusion chamber (Behera and Kudla, 2013) with shoots exposed to air and roots constantly
202 superfused with control imaging solution. This constant superfusion system circumvented
203 mechanical stimulation due to treatment injection (present in aequorin-based assays), excluding any
204 'touch response.' As eATP application had so far produced the most prominent Pi-dependent

205 $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response and was at the crossroads of signalling in other stress pathways, we used it as the
206 standard treatment from here onwards.

207 In Pi-replete roots of NES-YC3.6-expressing seedlings (Fig. 3A), superfusion with 1 mM eATP led to a
208 strong increase in cpVenus/CFP ratio over prestimulus levels in the apex (approximately within the
209 first 1 mm), which was sustained over the period of eATP treatment (3 minutes, visualized as a
210 representative kymograph in Fig. 3B). Approximately 30 to 40 seconds after this initial response, a
211 secondary increase in ratio occurred in the more distal part of the root tip (≥ 1 mm from root apex),
212 which appeared to propagate along the root (Fig. 3B, Supplemental Movie S1). These two distinct
213 increases in $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ were reminiscent of what had been termed 'peak 1' and 'peak 2' in aequorin-
214 based assays (see Fig. 2).

215 Pi-starved roots (Fig. 3C) sustained a similar increase of cpVenus/CFP ratio at the root apex in
216 response to 1 mM eATP. In more distal parts of the roots (≥ 1 mm from root apex), Pi-starved roots
217 only showed a slight or no ratio increase at all in response to eATP treatment (Fig. 3D:
218 representative kymograph, Supplemental Movie S2). This lack of a secondary response resembled
219 the absence of peak 2 in Pi-starved aequorin-expressing root tips (Fig. 2). Quantifying the ratiometric
220 changes occurring in response to eATP in specific regions of interest (ROIs) along the root (apical 2.5
221 mm, see micrograph in Fig. 4) corroborated these observations. Pi starvation effectively abolished an
222 eATP-induced $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ elevation in more distal regions (Fig. 4A-D) and dampened it nearer to the
223 apex (Fig. 4 E,F). However, at the apex, Pi starvation had no effect on the eATP-induced $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$
224 elevation (Fig. 4 G,H; $n = 7-9$ roots per growth condition), indicating that Pi-starved roots were not
225 impaired in perceiving eATP per se.

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236 **The altered $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signature manifests during prolonged Pi starvation and is reversed by Pi** 237 **resupply**

238 To place the response of Pi-starved root tips into developmental context, we next tested aequorin-
239 expressing Arabidopsis of different ages for an altered $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to eATP. The youngest root
240 material tested (on day 6) did not yet significantly differ in primary root length between full-Pi- and
241 zero-Pi-grown plants (mean primary root length \pm SEM: full Pi: 1.99 ± 0.08 cm, zero Pi: 1.83 ± 0.04
242 cm, $p = 0.908$). In ≥ 7 -day-old material, a significantly shorter primary root was observed in Pi-starved
243 seedlings (also see Supplementary Table S1).

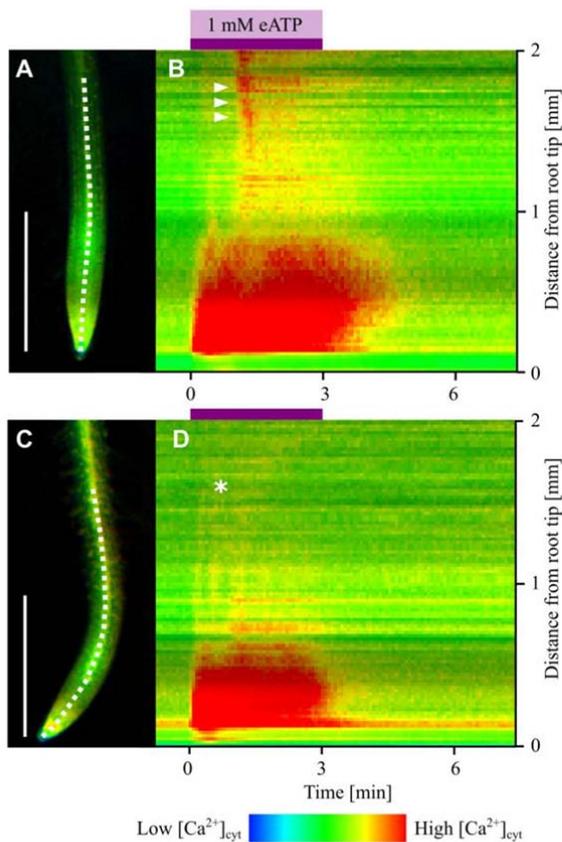


Figure 3. Extracellular ATP elicits two spatiotemporally distinct $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ increases in the root, which are altered by Pi starvation. (A) Representative full Pi-grown Arabidopsis Col-0 root expressing NES-YC3.6, white dashed line in root micrograph indicates line used for kymograph extraction, scale bar: 1 mm. (B) Kymograph depicts temporal and spatial changes in $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ of a representative full Pi-grown root in response to a 3-minute 1 mM eATP treatment (purple bar), preceded and followed by superfusion with control imaging solution. (C, D) Representative zero Pi-grown root. White triangles indicate secondary increase in $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ in the full Pi root, which is missing in the zero Pi root (marked by white star).

244 Assaying 6-, 7-, 8-, and 11-day-old full Pi-grown root tips (1 cm) replicated the characteristic
 245 multiphasic $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to 1 mM eATP throughout development (Fig. 5A-D), as well as eliciting
 246 $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ responses of comparable magnitude (quantified as area under the response curves, Fig. 5E).
 247 In contrast, 6-day-old Pi-starved root tips showed a $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response comparable in shape to the
 248 response of Pi-replete tips, but was dampened in magnitude (Fig. 5A). Seven- and 8-day-old Pi-
 249 starved tips (1 cm) showed a much dampened peak 2, which was completely absent in 11-day-old
 250 tips (Fig. 5B-D). Concomitantly, Pi-starved tips showed a decrease in total mobilized $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ with
 251 prolonged growth on zero Pi medium (Fig. 5E).

252 To test if the dampened and altered $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response of Pi-starved root tips could be rescued by Pi
 253 resupply, or was irreversibly lost, we grew seedlings on zero Pi medium until the altered $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$
 254 response to eATP would have manifested (day 8). On day 8, seedlings were (i) not transferred, (ii)
 255 transferred to zero Pi growth medium (representing a transfer control), or (iii) transferred to full Pi
 256 growth medium and grown for another 2 days. Pi-starved root tips (both not transferred and
 257 transferred to zero Pi) showed a dampened $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to 1 mM eATP, with peak 2 being
 258 mostly absent. In contrast, seedlings that had been resupplied with Pi (zero Pi to full Pi transfer)
 259 showed a clear multiphasic $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to eATP (Fig. 6A). Resupply of Pi significantly rescued
 260 the amplitude of peak 1 and peak 2, as well as the overall response magnitude (Fig. 6C-E).

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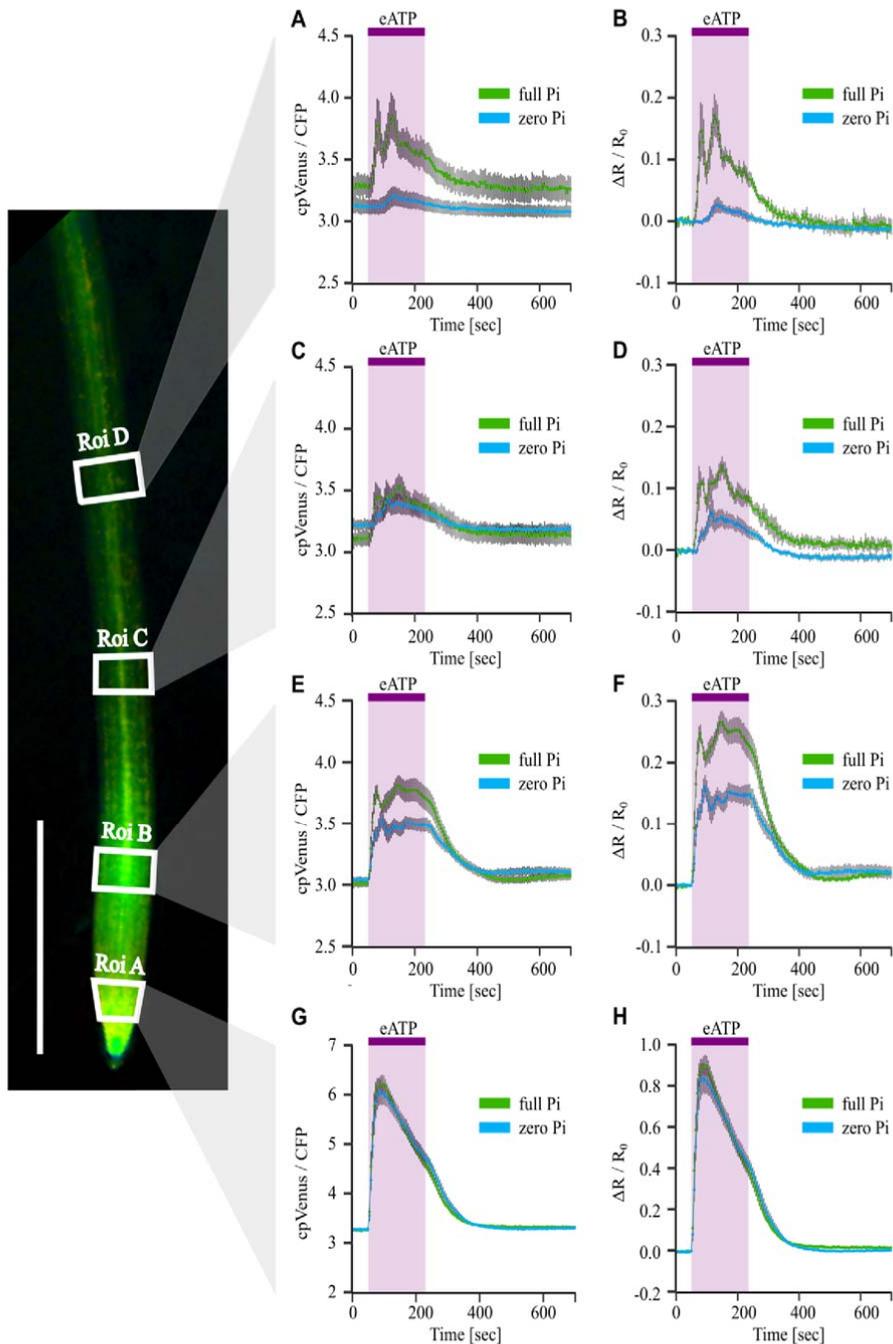


Figure 4. Quantification of differential $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response of Pi-starved roots to eATP. Arabidopsis Col-0 expressing the cytosolic Yellow Cameleon 3.6 (NES-YC3.6) was grown on full or zero Pi. In a superfusion chamber, a root of a 10-day old seedling was superfused with imaging solution before switching to 1 mM eATP (applied during 50 – 230 second interval after start of image acquisition, purple shading), followed by wash-out with imaging solution. On the left, representative root with annotated regions of interest (“Roi”, white boxes), analysed and plotted over time in A – H, scale bar: 1 mm. (A, B): Roi D; (C, D): Roi C; (E, F): Roi B; (G, H): Roi A. (A, C, E, G) Mean FRET ratio (cpVenus/CFP) \pm SEM, background subtracted; (B, D, F, H) normalized FRET ratio ($\Delta R/R_0$) \pm SEM, of full Pi (green trace) and zero Pi roots (blue trace). Data from 3 independent trials, with $n = 7 - 9$ individual roots per growth condition.

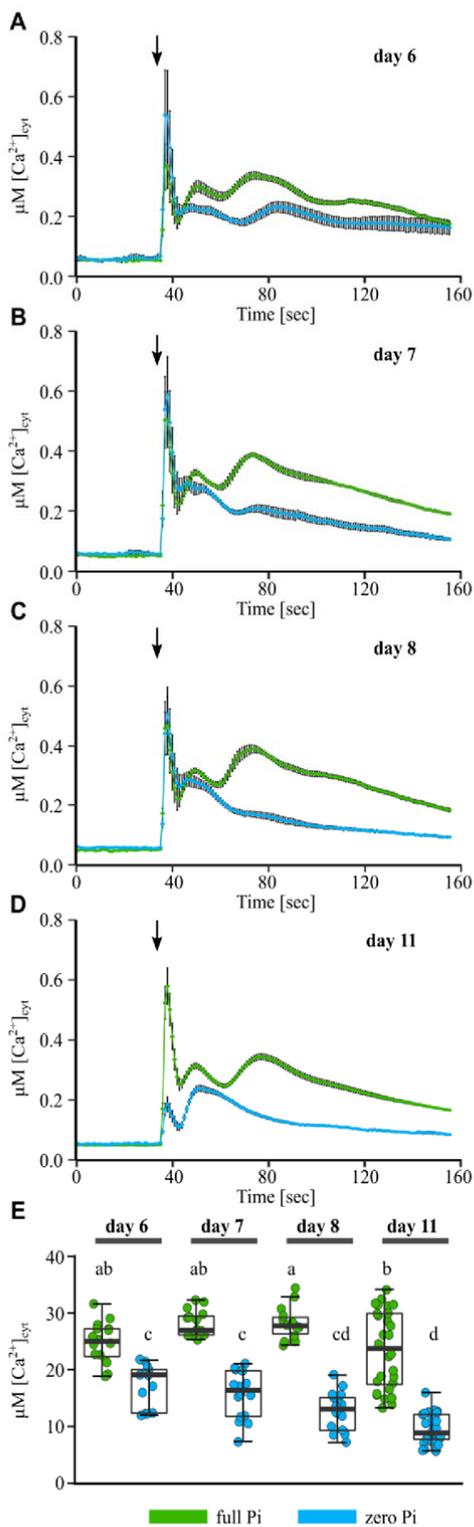


Figure 5. Pi starvation modulates the root tip $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$ response to eATP during development. Arabidopsis Col-0 aequorin-expressing seedlings were grown on full or zero Pi (green, blue trace respectively). Root tips (1 cm) of (A) 6-day, (B) 7-day, (C) 8-day or (D) 11-day old seedlings were challenged with 1 mM eATP applied at 35 seconds (black arrow), and $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$ was measured for 155 seconds. Time course trace represents mean \pm standard error of mean (SEM) from 3 - 5 independent trials, with $n = 13 - 45$ individual root tips averaged per data point. Time course data were analysed for (E) area under the curve (AUC), baseline-subtracted, with each dot representing an individual data point, see Supplemental Fig. S1 for analysis details. Boxplot middle line in (E) denotes median. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) with *post-hoc* Tukey Test was used to assess statistical differences. Different lower-case letters describe groups of significant statistical difference ($p < 0.05$), same letters indicate no statistical significance ($p > 0.05$).

264 Pi starvation causes iron (Fe) accumulation in Arabidopsis root tips, and exclusion of Fe from the
 265 growth medium (as well as Pi) restores primary root growth (Svistoonoff et al., 2007; Ward et al.,
 266 2008; Ticconi et al., 2009; Müller et al., 2015; Balzergue et al., 2017). To test if Fe availability

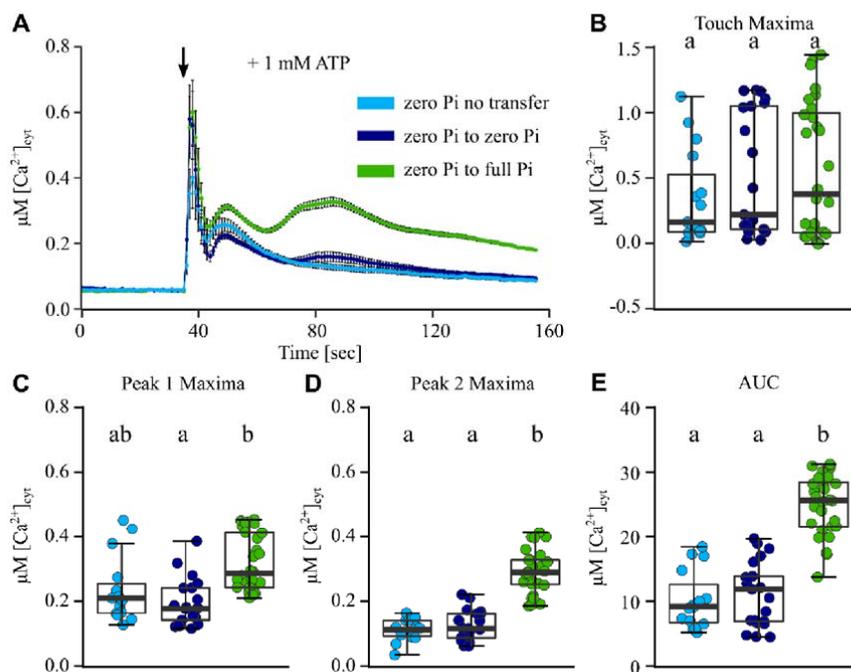


Figure 6. Resupply of Pi to Pi-starved seedlings rescues the dampened root tip $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to eATP. Arabidopsis Col-0 expressing aequorin was grown on zero Pi for 8 days, when plants were (i) not transferred ('zero Pi no transfer'), (ii) transferred to zero Pi growth medium ('zero Pi to zero Pi'), or (iii) transferred to full Pi growth medium ('zero Pi to full Pi'). After 2 days, individual excised root tips (1 cm) were challenged with treatments applied at 35 seconds (black arrow), and $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ was measured for 155 seconds. (A) Application of 1 mM ATP; time course trace represents mean \pm standard error of mean (SEM) from 3 independent trials, with $n = 15 - 28$ individual root tips averaged per data point. Time course data were analysed for (B) Touch Maxima, (C) Peak 1 Maxima, (D) Peak 2 Maxima and (E) area under the response curve (AUC), all baseline-subtracted, with each dot representing an individual data point (see Supplementary Fig. S1 for analysis details). Boxplot middle line denotes median. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) with *post-hoc* Tukey Test was used to assess statistical differences, different lower-case letters describe significant differences ($p < 0.05$).

267 influences the Pi starvation effect on the eATP-induced $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signature, we again grew aequorin-
 268 expressing plants on varied Pi levels (full Pi: 0.625 mM Pi, zero Pi: 0 mM Pi) while additionally varying
 269 Fe levels (full Fe: 50 μ M Fe, low Fe: 10 μ M, zero Fe: 0 μ M Fe). As expected, Fe exclusion in a zero Pi
 270 background rescued primary root growth (Supplementary Table S1). Strikingly, this growth condition
 271 (zero Pi-zero Fe) also rescued the altered root tip $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to 1 mM eATP induced by Pi
 272 starvation alone (zero Pi-full Fe; Fig. 7A). Zero Pi-zero Fe-grown roots supported an eATP-induced
 273 $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signature similar to those grown in nutrient-replete (full Pi-full Fe) conditions (Fig. 7B-E).

274 An intermediate Fe level in a Pi-deplete background (zero Pi-low Fe) led to an intermediate $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$
 275 response to 1 mM eATP for all parameters quantified (touch response: Fig. 7B, peak 1 maxima: Fig.
 276 7C, peak 2 maxima: Fig. 7D, area under the response curve: Fig. 7E). This was particularly interesting
 277 as zero Pi-low Fe-grown plants had longer root lengths than full Pi-full Fe-grown plants
 278 (Supplementary Table S1), indicating that long primary roots alone could not explain the rescued,
 279 altered $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signature. As a test of Fe specificity, copper (Cu^{2+} ; also a micronutrient transition
 280 metal) was excluded from the zero Pi growth medium. This treatment rescued neither primary root
 281 growth nor the eATP-induced $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signature (Supplementary Table S1; Supplemental Fig. S9).

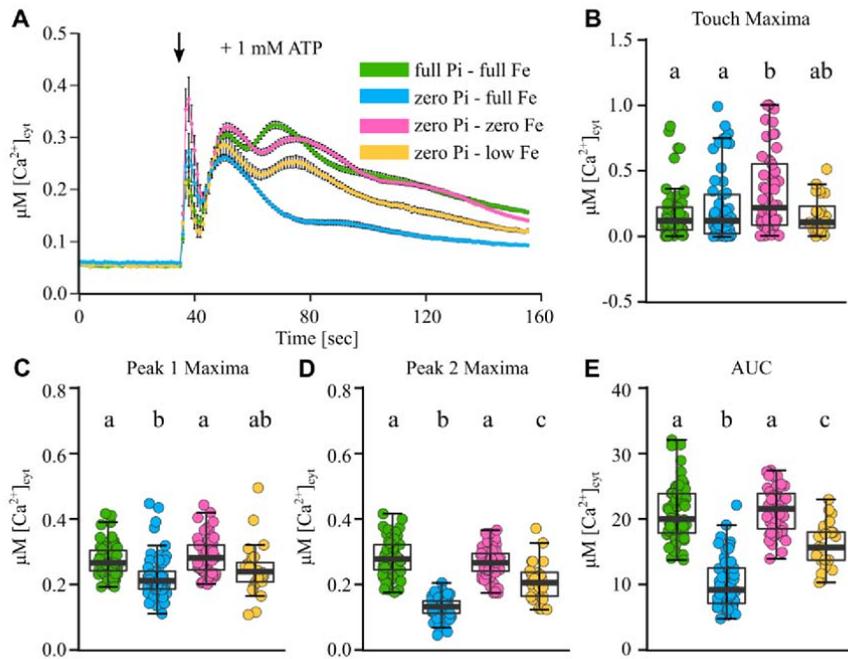


Figure 7. Iron levels modify the $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response of Pi-starved root apices to eATP. Arabidopsis Col-0 aequorin-expressing seedlings were grown on standard half MS growth medium, full Pi-full Fe (green trace), zero Pi-full Fe (blue trace), zero Pi-low Fe (pink trace) or zero Pi-zero Fe (orange trace). Excised root apices (1 cm) of 11-day old seedlings were challenged with treatments applied at 35 seconds (black arrow), and $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ was measured for 155 seconds. (A) Application of 1 mM eATP; time course trace represents mean \pm standard error of mean (SEM) from 3 - 6 independent trials, with $n = 24 - 61$ individual root tips averaged per data point. Time course data were analysed for (B) Touch Maxima, (C) Peak 1 Maxima, (D) Peak 2 Maxima, and (E) area under the response curve (AUC), all baseline-subtracted, with each dot representing an individual data point (see Supplemental Fig. S1 for details). Boxplot middle line denotes median. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) with *post-hoc* Tukey Test was used to assess statistical differences, different lower-case letters describe significant differences ($p < 0.05$).

282

283 Pi and Fe availability influences root cellular ROS level

284 Pi-dependent Fe accumulation has been linked to hotspots of ROS (Müller et al., 2015; Balzergue et al., 2017), implying a link between cellular redox status and aberrant $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to eATP of Pi-
 285 starved root tips. Using the fluorescent dye CM-H₂DCFDA (which reports intracellular ROS), nutrient-
 286 replete roots showed low intracellular ROS levels along the root tip (Fig. 8A,B). In Pi-starved root
 287 tips, we observed overall higher ROS levels, with a particular ROS hotspot localized at approximately
 288 1 mm from the root apex (Fig. 8C, D, also see blue trace in I). Excluding Fe (in zero Pi background)
 289 reversed the higher ROS load back to nutrient-replete low ROS levels (Fig. 8E, F). Thus, root tips
 290 sustaining a low ROS load qualitatively correlated with root tips capable of producing a multiphasic
 291 $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to 1 mM eATP (compare with Fig. 7). Root tips showing a high ROS load correlated
 292 with root tips exhibiting a much dampened $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to 1 mM eATP.

294

295

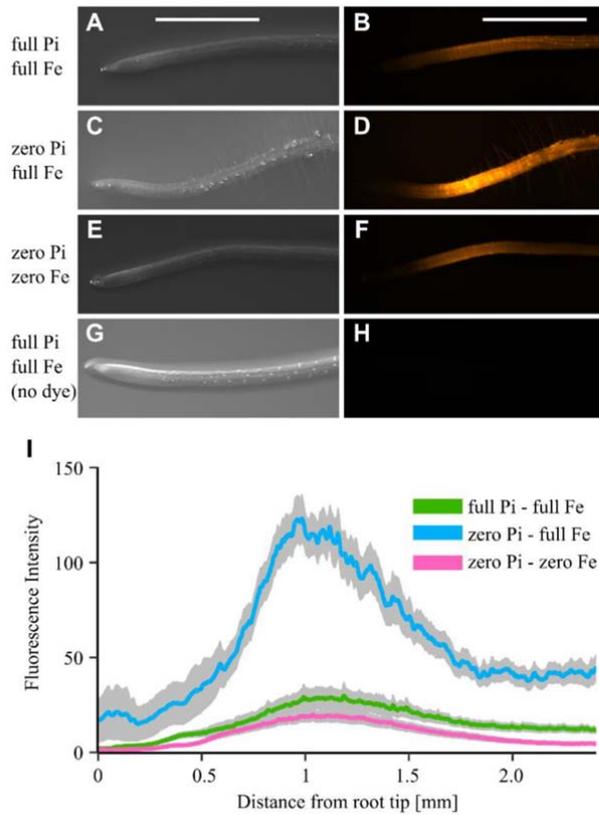


Figure 8. Intracellular ROS are modified by Pi and Fe availability, and influence root $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to eATP. Ten- to 11-day old Arabidopsis Col-0 grown on (A,B) full Pi-full Fe, (C,D) zero Pi-full Fe, (E,F) zero Pi-zero Fe were stained for intracellular ROS using 20 μ M CM-H₂DCFDA, (G,H) non-stained control root, (A,C,E,G) representative brightfield images, (B,D,F,H) representative false-coloured fluorescence images, scale bar in (A,B) 1 mm. (I) Fluorescence intensity was quantified, background subtracted and averaged along the root length. Mean values (coloured lines) \pm SEM (grey shading) are shown, data from 3 independent trials, with n = 14 - 16 roots analysed per growth condition.

296

297

299 **DISCUSSION**

300 $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ is a seemingly ubiquitous second messenger in plant abiotic stress responses, with roots
301 responding to such stresses with cell-specific Ca^{2+} signatures (Kiegle et al., 2000; Marti et al., 2013;
302 Wilkins et al., 2016). Few studies have addressed the impact of nutrient status on Ca^{2+} signatures
303 (Koshiba et al., 2010; Quiles-Pando et al., 2013). Here, we show that Pi but not N starvation could
304 significantly affect the root tip $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to a range of acute abiotic stressors and
305 intermediate signalling agents (extracellular purine nucleotides and H_2O_2). Pi and Ca^{2+} have a
306 particularly interesting relationship as they can form undissociated complexes (Cole, 1953; Edel and
307 Kudla, 2015; Verkhatsky and Parpura, 2015). In animals, Ca^{2+} -Pi complexes play significant structural
308 roles (Plattner and Verkhatsky, 2015), but in plants, these have only recently been discovered in
309 trichomes of a variety of plant species, including Arabidopsis (Ensikat et al., 2016; Weigend et al.,
310 2017; Mustafa et al., 2018). Pi and Ca^{2+} have even been shown to be stored in different plant cell
311 types, presumably to avoid complexation (Conn and Gilliam, 2010). Cellular Pi levels have favored
312 the evolution of a highly efficient and regulated Ca^{2+} flux apparatus to maintain low $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ and
313 prevent cytotoxicity (Edel and Kudla, 2015; Verkhatsky and Parpura, 2015). While Pi deficiency
314 causes lower cellular and cytosolic Pi levels (Duff et al., 1989; Pratt et al., 2009), results here show
315 that $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signatures still proceed but in altered forms.

316 The impact of Pi depletion on the eATP-induced $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signature was evident in 6-day-old root tips,
317 at a stage where a Pi-dependent inhibition of primary root growth was not yet detectable. This
318 suggests that changes in Ca^{2+} transport and possibly signalling systems are an early consequence of
319 Pi deprivation. The observed dampening of $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signatures under Pi deprivation may have several
320 causes. Pi deficiency causes remodelling of membranes such that phospholipids are replaced by
321 glyco- and sulpholipids (Andersson et al., 2005; Tjellstrom et al., 2010; Nakamura, 2013; Okazaki et
322 al., 2013), which can be envisaged to have an impact on membrane-based signalling. Additionally,
323 many studies have reported the effect of Pi starvation on gene expression and protein composition
324 (Misson et al., 2005; Lin et al., 2011; Lan et al., 2012; Kellermeier et al., 2014; Hoehenwarter et al.,
325 2016; Wang et al., 2018). However, these studies do not report an enrichment of (downregulated)
326 Ca^{2+} -associated transport and signalling components to help explain dampening of the $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$
327 signature. As phosphorylated metabolites decrease, and phosphorylation patterns reportedly
328 change under Pi starvation (Duan et al., 2013; Pant et al., 2015), it could be envisaged that
329 posttranslational modifications and an altered physico-chemical cellular environment strongly affect
330 the activity of the channels involved in generating the signatures.

331 Therefore, it is likely that as Pi starvation advances there is a progressive remodelling of Ca^{2+}
332 signalling machinery, affecting the transporters engaged in generating $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signatures. Our
333 results show that this is not a determinate effect, but reversible by Pi resupply. These findings have
334 implications for the downstream signalling events and responses, which may change under Pi
335 deprivation. For example, Pi deprivation dampened the mechano-induced $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signature, which
336 may have consequences for root penetration of Pi-deplete compacted soil. It also dampened the
337 NaCl-induced $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signature, which may have consequences for regulation of the Ca^{2+} -dependent
338 SOS pathway (Quintero et al., 2011; Manishankar et al., 2018) and the observation that Pi starvation
339 alleviated the inhibitory effect of low salt concentrations on root growth (Kawa et al., 2016).

340 The extracellular purine nucleotides ATP and ADP induce root $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ increases, potentially for
341 regulation of growth, stress responses, and defense (Demidchik et al., 2003, 2009; Rincón-Zachary et
342 al., 2010; Tanaka, Gilroy, et al., 2010; Dark et al., 2011; Loro et al., 2012, 2016; Choi et al., 2014). In
343 common with root $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ imaging reports (Loro et al., 2012, 2016; Waadt et al., 2017), eATP was
344 used here as a reliable stimulus of a robust $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signature as well as an agent of root signal

345 transduction. Under Pi-replete conditions, the temporal biphasic eATP-induced $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response
346 found using aequorin mapped well to a spatial biphasic response found using YC3.6, as well as
347 agreeing with what has recently been reported using a range of other $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ reporters (Waadt et
348 al., 2017). This spatiotemporal pattern has been hypothesized to constitute a “ Ca^{2+} wave,”
349 propagating from the meristematic zone towards the elongation zone and into the mature zone
350 (Rincón-Zachary et al., 2010; Loro et al., 2012; Costa et al., 2013).

351 The spatial resolution afforded by YC3.6 revealed that while Pi starvation had no effect on the eATP-
352 induced $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ increase at the apex (Fig. 4G,H), it caused the progressive diminution of the signal in
353 increasingly distal regions in the mature zone (Fig. 4A-F). Root accumulation of intracellular ROS
354 under Pi deficiency was linked to Fe availability (Fig. 8), consistent with previous reports (Müller et
355 al., 2015; Balzergue et al., 2017). Fe depletion under Pi starvation not only lowered ROS
356 accumulation to that found under nutrient-replete conditions but also restored the second peak of
357 the biphasic eATP- induced $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ signature (with good spatial coincidence of both phenomena). It
358 is therefore reasonable to conclude that under Pi deprivation alone, aberrant Fe accumulation leads
359 to intracellular ROS accumulation and that the greater oxidative state of that region helps suppress
360 the second eATP-induced $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ increase. Abiotic stress has been shown previously to cause an
361 increase in root ROS accumulation, with NADPH oxidases implicated in their generation (Foreman et
362 al., 2003; Demidchik et al., 2009). However, the activity of NADPH oxidases is usually linked to
363 amplification of a $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ increase through activation of Ca^{2+} influx across the plasma membrane
364 (Foreman et al., 2003; Demidchik et al., 2009; Laohavisit et al., 2012; Demidchik, 2018). This is
365 seemingly at odds with the loss of the second eATP-induced $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ increase under Pi starvation,
366 and the paradigm of the “ROS/ Ca^{2+} hub” in signalling may not hold under Pi deprivation or in general
367 conditions of high baseline ROS. The origin of the intracellular ROS under Pi deprivation may well
368 include leakage from mitochondria, which increase their ROS production under stress (Gleason et al.,
369 2011). It is feasible that the restoration of normal ROS levels with growth on zero Pi and zero Fe
370 medium reflects the impaired mitochondrial function that occurs on chronic deprivation of Fe
371 (Vigani and Briat, 2016), possibly leading to lower ROS production.

372

373 Overall, our results reveal how nutritional status adds another layer of complexity to Ca^{2+} signalling,
374 allowing plants to integrate various cues such as nutritional status and environmental changes.
375 While $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ does not appear to be a second messenger in the sensing of Pi in either Pi-replete
376 Arabidopsis roots (Demidchik et al., 2003) or Pi-starved roots (this study), its use is altered when Pi
377 supply is limited. In addition to elucidating the mechanistic basis of these altered signatures in
378 response to abiotic stress and determining downstream consequences for signalling, it is also now
379 appropriate to investigate the impact of nutritional status on Ca^{2+} signalling in biotic interactions.

380

381 MATERIAL & METHODS

382 Plant materials and growth conditions

383 All plant material used was in the Arabidopsis (*Arabidopsis thaliana*) ecotype Col-0 background,
384 stably transformed with constitutively expressed cytosolic (apo)aequorin (pMAQ2, Knight et al.,
385 1991) or the cytosolic sensor Yellow Cameleon 3.6 (NES-YC3.6, Krebs et al., 2012). Surface-sterilized
386 seeds were sown aseptically on half-strength Murashige and Skoog (MS) growth medium including
387 vitamins (Duchefa), with pH adjusted to 5.6 using KOH, and solidified using 0.8 % (w/v) agar (Bacto
388 agar, BD Biosciences). Plates (12 cm x 12 cm, Greiner Bio-One) were sealed using micropore tape
389 (3M) to allow for gas exchange. All seeds were stratified at 4°C and in darkness for 2 to 3 days prior
390 to placing plates vertically into long-day conditions (16 h light / 8 h dark) in a growth chamber with
391 78 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ light intensity, at 23°C (CLF Plant Climatics).

392 Standard half MS comprised the full phosphate ('full Pi') and full nitrogen ('full N') growth
393 conditions. A custom-made MS medium without Pi was used for 'zero Pi' conditions (Duchefa,
394 DU1072) or without N for 'zero N' conditions (PhytoTechnology Laboratories, M531). KCl was used
395 to substitute for missing potassium (K^+) whenever Pi (KH_2PO_4) or N (KNO_3) were excluded. As the N-
396 free medium was not available including vitamins, MS vitamin x 1000 stock solution (Sigma-Aldrich,
397 M7150) was added to 'zero N' medium to the same final concentration. For all growth conditions
398 requiring modified iron (Fe) or copper (Cu) content, half MS medium was prepared from stock
399 solutions and vitamins were supplied from the MS vitamin x 1000 stock. For transfer experiments, 8-
400 day-old seedlings were transferred to fresh growth medium plates, containing full/zero Pi growth
401 medium (as described in the text), and grown for an additional 2 days.

402 Quantification of primary root length

403 Plates containing seedlings were scanned using a Perfection V300 Photo scanner (Epson) with 300-
404 dpi resolution, saving the images in ".tiff" format. The software ImageJ (Abràmoff et al., 2004) and
405 plug-in NeuronJ (Meijering et al., 2004) were used to trace primary root lengths.

406 Aequorin-based $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$ measurements

407 Nutrient growth conditions were maintained throughout the experiments, *i.e.* all incubation and
408 treatment solutions were prepared in the respective liquid half-strength MS medium, including
409 1.175 mM MES, adjusted to pH 5.6 using Tris. Excised primary root tips of 11-day-old Arabidopsis
410 expressing (apo)aequorin were used for luminescence-based quantification of $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$ dynamics,
411 unless stated otherwise. Reconstitution of aequorin with coelenterazine (CTZ) *in vivo* was modified
412 after Knight et al., 1997. In short, an excised tip was placed individually in a well of a white 96-well
413 plate (Greiner Bio-One), incubated in 10 μM coelenterazine (NanoLight Technology) overnight, in
414 darkness and at room temperature. A FLUOstar OPTIMA plate reader (BMG Labtech) was used to
415 record baseline luminescence for 35 seconds, before injecting 100 μl of different treatment solutions
416 with an injection speed of 150 $\mu\text{l s}^{-1}$. Changes in luminescence signal were monitored for 120
417 seconds, before injecting 100 μl of discharge solution (final concentration: 10 % (v/v) ethanol, 1 M
418 CaCl_2) and monitoring for another 45 seconds. Concentrations of $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{cyt}}$ were calculated as
419 described (Knight et al., 1997). Treatments included the following: adenosine 5'-triphosphate
420 disodium salt trihydrate (ATP, Melford); adenosine 5'-diphosphate disodium salt dehydrate (ADP,
421 Melford); nonhydrolyzable ATP-analog adenosine 5'-[γ -thio]triphosphate tetralithium salt (γ -ATP,
422 Sigma); phosphoric acid (Thermo Fisher); NaCl (Thermo Fisher); osmotic control for NaCl treatments,
423 D-sorbitol (Sigma-Aldrich); hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2 , Sigma). The accompanying ions (Na^+ for ATP
424 and ADP; Li^+ for γ -ATP) were previously shown in our laboratory not to confound the response

425 (Demidchik et al., 2009). Test treatments were pH adjusted to 5.6 using Tris and prepared at double
426 strength, as in the well, a 1:2 dilution led to the desired final concentration. A Vapro5520
427 osmometer (Wescor) was used to check the osmolality of the NaCl and D-sorbitol treatment
428 solutions.

429 **Ratiometric $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ measurements**

430 Ten-day-old Arabidopsis seedlings expressing NES-YC3.6 were mounted into a custom-built
431 superfusion chamber (Behera and Kudla, 2013), stabilized with wetted cotton wool, and
432 continuously superfused with imaging solution (IS; 5mM KCl, 10 mM $CaCl_2$, 10 mM MES, set to pH
433 5.8 using Tris; Loro et al., 2016) using an EconoPump system (Bio-Rad) with a tube diameter of 0.8
434 mm and a speed of 0.9 ml/minute. Seedlings were left to acclimatize to constant superfusion for 10
435 to 15 minutes, before starting an experiment. At the start of an experiment, seedlings were imaged
436 for two minutes while superfusing IS. Extracellular ATP treatment (1 mM ATP, in IS background, pH
437 5.8) was then superfused over the roots for three minutes before changing back to IS without ATP.
438 Images were captured using a Ti-E wide-field inverted fluorescence microscope (Nikon) with a Nikon
439 Plan Fluor 4x 0.13 dry objective. The samples were excited at 440 nm using a Prior Lumen 200 PRO
440 fluorescent light source (Prior Scientific). Images were collected with an ORCA-D2 Dual CCD camera
441 (Hamamatsu) every five seconds for up to 30 minutes. NIS Elements AR 4.0 software (Nikon) was
442 used to control the microscope, light source, and camera. ImageJ Fiji software was used to process
443 the cpVenus and CFP fluorescence intensities. Using the 'Roi Manager' tool, each root sample was
444 individually fitted with comparable ROIs. The z axis profiles were plotted for each channel,
445 individually background subtracted, and used to calculate FRET (Förster resonance energy transfer)
446 raw ratios (cpVenus/CFP). Normalization of data was carried out by taking into account differences
447 in prestimulus baseline ($\Delta R/R_0 = R - R_0/R_0$, with R – cpVenus/CFP ratio, R_0 – averaged cpVenus/CFP
448 prestimulus baseline ratio, after Loro et al., 2016).

449 **ROS imaging**

450 The membrane-permeable dye CM-H₂DCFDA (2', 7'-dichlorodihydrofluorescein diacetate, Thermo
451 Fisher) was used at a final concentration of 20 μ M, in assay medium (0.1 mM KCl, 0.1 mM $CaCl_2$,
452 1.175 mM MES, set to pH 6.0 using Tris; adapted from Foreman *et al.*, 2003). Ten- to 11-day-old
453 seedlings were incubated for 1 hour (dark, 4°C), gently washed in fresh assay medium without dye,
454 and placed on plates containing growth medium maintaining previous growth conditions for 1 hour
455 (light, RT) to acclimatize, before imaging primary root tips under a stereomicroscope, M205 FA
456 (Leica), with a DFC365FX camera (Leica) and a Sola SE365 light source (Lumencor). Excitation at
457 470/40 nm was used and a GFP-ET filter collected emission at 525/50 nm, with a 400 ms exposure
458 time, 70 % light intensity, and a gain of 2.0 and 50 x magnification. LAS X software (Leica) was used
459 to control the microscope, light source, and camera. Image analysis was done using Fiji ImageJ
460 software, tracing each root using the line tool (line width: 10) in combination with the 'plot profile'
461 function, which reports signal intensity along the root (Reyt et al., 2015). For each root, three lines
462 were drawn (from root apex shootwards through centre of root, from root apex shootwards along
463 the upper side of the root, from root apex shootwards along the lower part of the root), and the
464 intensity profiles were averaged per root (Reyt et al., 2015).

465 **Data analysis**

466 Data analysis and all statistical tests were performed using the open-source software R ([www.r-](http://www.r-project.org)
467 project.org, version 3.5.1) in an R studio environment. The package 'MESS' was used to calculate
468 area under the response curve. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) and Tukey's HSD *post-hoc* test were

469 employed to determine differences among the groups. A 95% family-wise confidence level was
470 applied.

471 **Accession Numbers**

472 Sequence data from this article can be found in the GenBank/EMBL data libraries under accession
473 numbers M11394.1 (aequorin) and AB178712 (YC3.6).

474 **Supplemental Data**

475 Supplemental Figure S1. Schematic representation of aequorin-based $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ time-course analyses.

476 Supplemental Figure S2. The $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response of nitrogen-starved root tips to salt and osmotic
477 stress.

478 Supplemental Figure S3. The $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response of Pi-starved root tips to mechanical stimulation and a
479 Pi source.

480 Supplemental Figure S4. The $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response of Pi-starved root tips to extracellular ADP.

481 Supplemental Figure S5. The $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response of Pi-starved root tips to a non-hydrolysable ATP
482 analog.

483 Supplemental Figure S6. The $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response of Pi-starved root tips to oxidative stress.

484 Supplemental Figure S7. The $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response of nitrogen-starved root tips to extracellular ATP.

485 Supplemental Figure S8. The $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response of nitrogen-starved root tips to oxidative stress.

486 Supplemental Figure S9. The $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response of copper- and Pi-starved root tips to extracellular
487 ATP.

488 Supplemental Table S1. Mean primary root lengths of Arabidopsis plants used in this study.

489 Supplemental Movie S1. Ratiometric false-color movie from a representative time series of a Pi-
490 replete Col-0 root expressing NES-YC3.6, response to 1 mM extracellular ATP.

491 Supplemental Movie S2. Ratiometric false-color movie from a representative time series of a Pi-
492 starved Col-0 root expressing NES-YC3.6, response to 1 mM extracellular ATP.

493

494

495

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504

505

506 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

507 **Figure 1. Pi-starved root tips have a dampened $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to mechanical, salt, and osmotic**
508 **stress.** Arabidopsis Col-0 aequorin-expressing seedlings were grown on full, medium (med), or zero
509 Pi (green, purple, and blue traces, respectively). Individual root tips (1 cm) of 11-day-old seedlings
510 were challenged with treatments applied at 35 seconds (black arrow), and $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ was measured for
511 155 seconds. (A) Mechanical stimulation (control solution); time course trace represents mean \pm
512 standard error of mean (SEM) from 18 independent trials, with $n = 150 - 155$ root tips per growth
513 condition averaged per data point. Time-course data were analyzed for (B) touch maxima and (C)
514 area under the response curve (AUC), both baseline-subtracted, with each dot representing an
515 individual data point (see Supplemental Fig. S1 for details). The middle line in the box plot denotes
516 the median. (D-F) Responses to 150 mM NaCl (3 independent trials, $n = 35 - 36$ root tips). (G-I)
517 Responses to 280 mM sorbitol (3 independent trials, $n = 22 - 24$ root tips). Analysis of variance
518 (ANOVA) with *post-hoc* Tukey's test was used to assess statistical differences; different lowercase
519 letters denote significant differences ($p < 0.05$).

520

521 **Figure 2. Pi-starved root tips show a dampened $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to extracellular ATP.** Arabidopsis
522 Col-0 aequorin-expressing seedlings were grown on full, medium (med), or zero Pi (green, purple,
523 and blue traces, respectively). Individual root tips (1 cm) of 11-day-old seedlings were challenged
524 with treatments applied at 35 seconds (black arrow), and $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ was measured for 155 seconds. (A)
525 Treatment with 0.1 mM ATP; time-course trace represents mean \pm standard error of mean (SEM)
526 from 6 independent trials, with $n = 34 - 36$ individual root tips averaged per data point. Time-course
527 data were analyzed for (B) touch maxima, (C) Peak 1 maxima, (D) Peak 2 maxima, and (E) area under
528 the response curve (AUC), all baseline-subtracted, with each dot representing an individual data
529 point (see Supplementary Fig. S1 for details). The middle line in the box plot denotes the median. (F-
530 J) Responses to 1 mM ATP (5 independent trials, $n = 27 - 45$ root tips per growth condition). Analysis
531 of variance (ANOVA) with *post-hoc* Tukey's test was used to assess statistical differences; different
532 lowercase letters denote significant differences ($p < 0.05$).

533

534 **Figure 3. eATP elicits two spatiotemporally distinct $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ increases in the root, which are altered**
535 **by Pi starvation.** (A) Representative full Pi-grown Arabidopsis Col-0 root expressing NES-YC3.6.
536 White dashed line in root micrograph indicates line used for kymograph extraction; scale bar: 1 mm.
537 (B) Kymograph depicts temporal and spatial changes in $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ of a representative full Pi-grown root
538 in response to a 3-minute 1 mM eATP treatment (purple bar), preceded and followed by superfusion
539 with control imaging solution. (C, D) Representative zero-Pi-grown root. White triangles indicate
540 secondary increase in $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ in the full Pi root, which is missing in the zero Pi root (marked by white
541 star).

542

543 **Figure 4. Quantification of differential $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response of Pi-starved roots to eATP.** Arabidopsis
544 Col-0 expressing the cytosolic Yellow Cameleon 3.6 (NES-YC3.6) was grown on full or zero Pi. In a
545 superfusion chamber, a root of a 10-day-old seedling was superfused with imaging solution before
546 switching to 1 mM eATP (applied during 50 – 230 second interval after start of image acquisition,
547 purple shading), followed by washout with imaging solution. On the left, representative root with
548 annotated ROIs ("Roi", white boxes), analyzed and plotted over time in A – H, scale bar: 1 mm. (A, B):
549 Roi D; (C, D): Roi C; (E, F): Roi B; (G, H): Roi A. (A, C, E, G) Mean FRET ratio (cpVenus/CFP) \pm SEM,

550 background subtracted; (B, D, F, H) normalized FRET ratio ($\Delta R/R_0$) \pm SEM, of full Pi (green trace) and
551 zero Pi roots (blue trace). Data from 3 independent trials, with n = 7 - 9 individual roots per growth
552 condition.

553

554 **Figure 5. Pi starvation modulates the root tip $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to eATP during development.**
555 Arabidopsis Col-0 aequorin-expressing seedlings were grown on full or zero Pi (green and blue
556 traces, respectively). Root tips (1 cm) of (A) 6-day-old, (B) 7-day-old, (C) 8-day-old, or (D) 11-day-old
557 seedlings were challenged with 1 mM eATP applied at 35 seconds (black arrow), and $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ was
558 measured for 155 seconds. Time-course trace represents mean \pm standard error of mean (SEM) from
559 3 - 5 independent trials, with n = 13 - 45 individual root tips averaged per data point. Time-course
560 data were analyzed for (E) area under the response curve, baseline-subtracted, with each dot
561 representing an individual data point; see Supplemental Fig. S1 for details. The middle line in the box
562 plot in (E) denotes the median. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) with *post-hoc* Tukey's test was used to
563 assess statistical differences. Different lowercase letters indicate groups of significant statistical
564 difference ($p < 0.05$); same letters indicate no statistical significance ($p > 0.05$).

565

566 **Figure 6. Resupply of Pi to Pi-starved seedlings rescues the dampened root tip $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response to**
567 **eATP.** Arabidopsis Col-0 expressing aequorin was grown on zero Pi for 8 days, when plants were (i)
568 not transferred ('zero Pi no transfer'), (ii) transferred to zero Pi growth medium ('zero Pi to zero Pi'),
569 or (iii) transferred to full Pi growth medium ('zero Pi to full Pi'). After 2 days, individual excised root
570 tips (1 cm) were challenged with treatments applied at 35 seconds (black arrow), and $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ was
571 measured for 155 seconds. (A) Application of 1 mM ATP; time-course trace represents mean \pm
572 standard error of mean (SEM) from 3 independent trials, with n = 15 - 28 individual root tips
573 averaged per data point. Time-course data were analyzed for (B) touch maxima, (C) Peak 1 maxima,
574 (D) Peak 2 maxima, and (E) area under the response curve (AUC), all baseline-subtracted, with each
575 dot representing an individual data point (see Supplementary Fig. S1 for details). The middle line in
576 the box plot denotes the median. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) with *post-hoc* Tukey's test was used
577 to assess statistical differences; different lowercase letters indicate significant differences ($p < 0.05$).

578

579 **Figure 7. Iron levels modify the $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ response of Pi-starved root apices to eATP.** Arabidopsis Col-
580 0 aequorin-expressing seedlings were grown on standard half-strength MS growth medium, full Pi-
581 full Fe (green trace), zero Pi-full Fe (blue trace), zero Pi-low Fe (pink trace), or zero Pi-zero Fe (orange
582 trace). Excised root apices (1 cm) of 11-day-old seedlings were challenged with treatments applied at
583 35 seconds (black arrow), and $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$ was measured for 155 seconds. (A) Application of 1 mM eATP;
584 time-course trace represents mean \pm standard error of mean (SEM) from 3 - 6 independent trials,
585 with n = 24 - 61 individual root tips averaged per data point. Time-course data were analyzed for (B)
586 touch maxima, (C) Peak 1 maxima, (D) Peak 2 maxima, and (E) area under the response curve (AUC),
587 all baseline-subtracted, with each dot representing an individual data point (see Supplemental Fig.
588 S1 for details). The middle line in the box plot denotes the median. Analysis of variance (ANOVA)
589 with *post-hoc* Tukey's test was used to assess statistical differences; different lowercase letters
590 indicate significant differences ($p < 0.05$).

591

592 **Figure 8. Intracellular ROS are modified by Pi and Fe availability and influence root $[Ca^{2+}]_{cyt}$**
593 **response to eATP.** Ten- to 11-day-old Arabidopsis Col-0 grown on (A,B) full Pi-full Fe, (C,D) zero Pi-
594 full Fe, and (E,F) zero Pi-zero Fe were stained for intracellular ROS using 20 μ M CM-H₂DCFDA, (G,H)
595 nonstained control root, (A,C,E,G) representative bright-field images, and (B,D,F,H) representative
596 false-colored fluorescence images; scale bar in (A,B) 1 mm. (I) Fluorescence intensity was quantified,
597 background subtracted, and averaged along the root length. Mean values (colored lines) \pm SEM (grey
598 shading) are shown; data from 3 independent trials, with n = 14 - 16 roots analyzed per growth
599 condition.

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601

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