

# **Rooting the future: Plant development modulation for agrobiotechnology**

**Lorena Norambuena**

**Centro de Biología Molecular Vegetal**

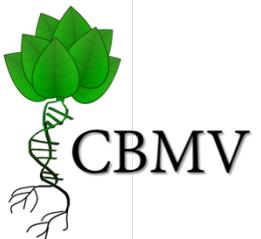
Departamento de Biología

Facultad de Ciencias

**Universidad de Chile**



# Lorena Norambuena's Lab



# Lorena Norambuena's Lab

Postdoctorado

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Dr Cecilia Rodríguez-Furlán  
Dr Ricardo Tejos

Doctoral thesis

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Lorena Pizarro  
Carlos Rubilar-Hernández

Master thesis

Milagros Bracamonte  
Aliosha Figueroa  
Stefanía Morales  
Claudio Osorio  
Sara Zapata

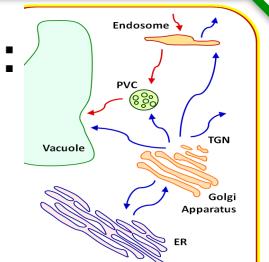
Undergraduate thesis Alvaro Guajardo

Visitor Gabriela Madrid

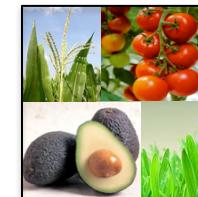
Professional Uri Aceituno  
Mirna Cruz-Amaya  
Giovanna Miranda

Technician Sebastian Urbina

Protein trafficking:  
Regulation and  
Role in plant  
Development



Agro-chemical  
Biotechnology



Chilean strawberry  
Fruit Development



Funding

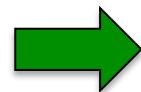
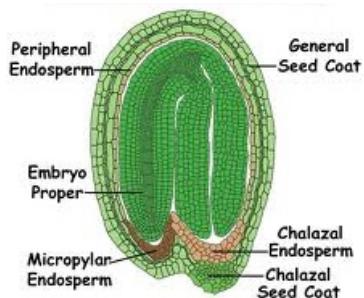
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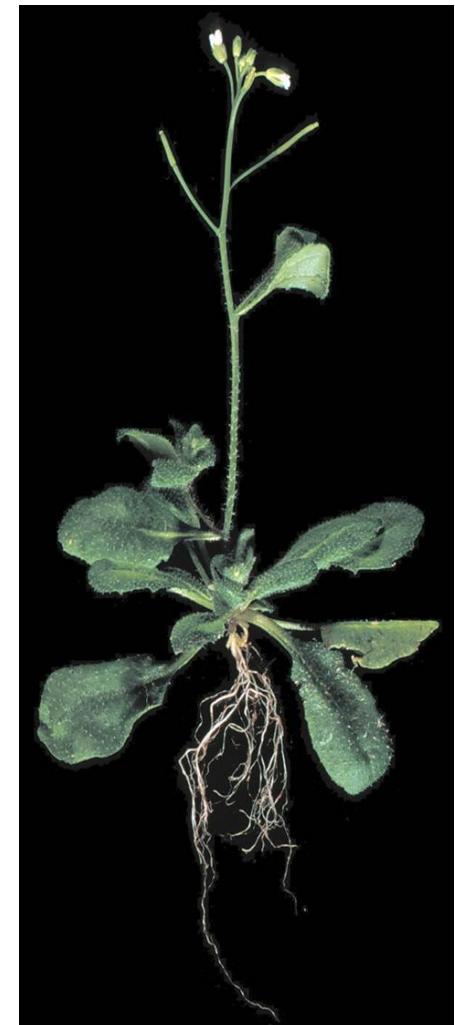
# Plant development is plastic

## Development

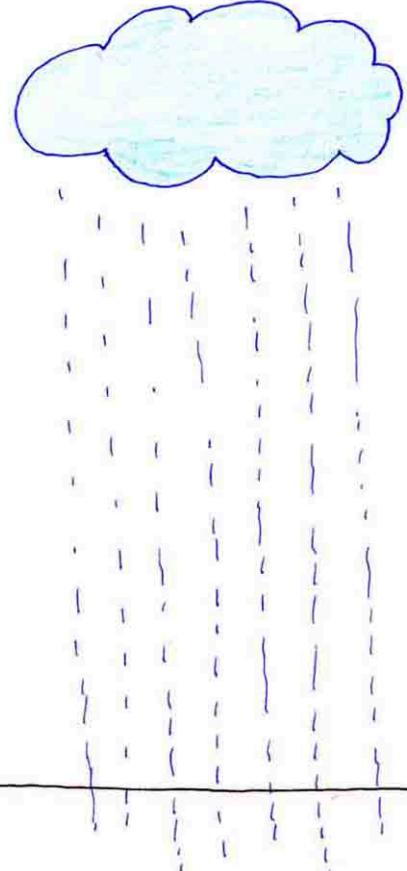
Embryonic



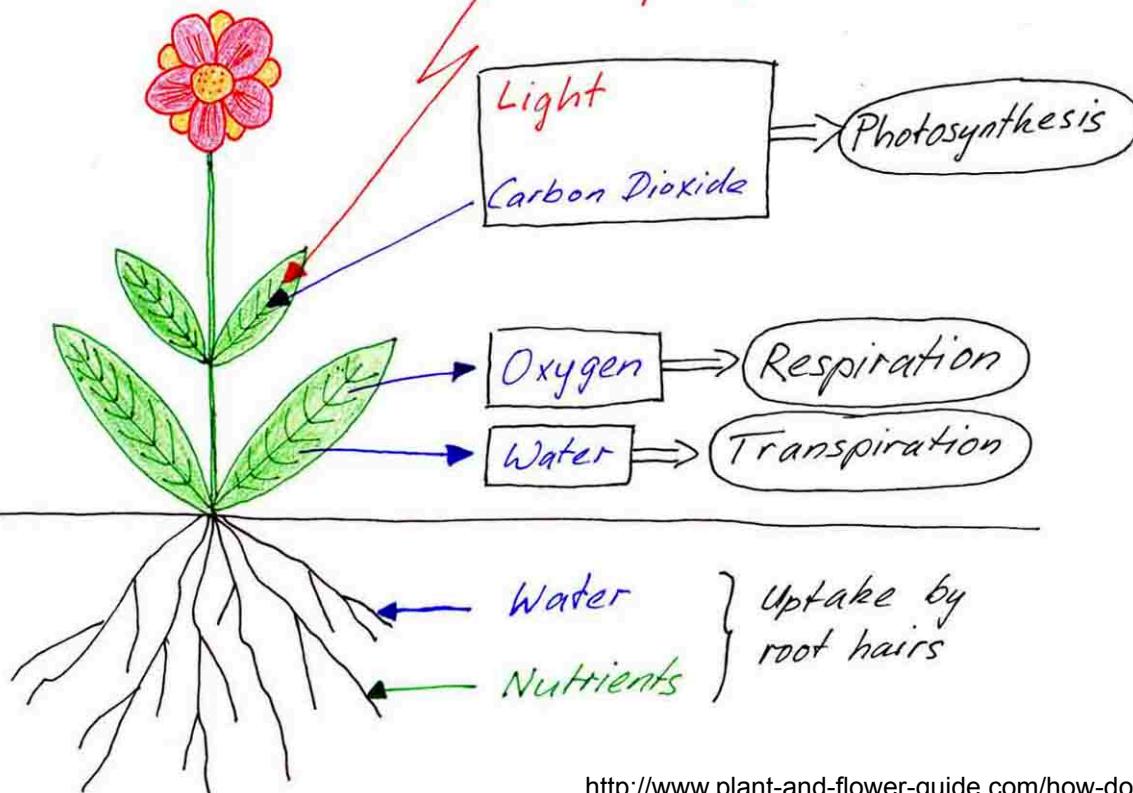
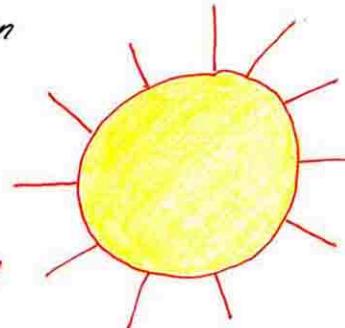
Postembryonic



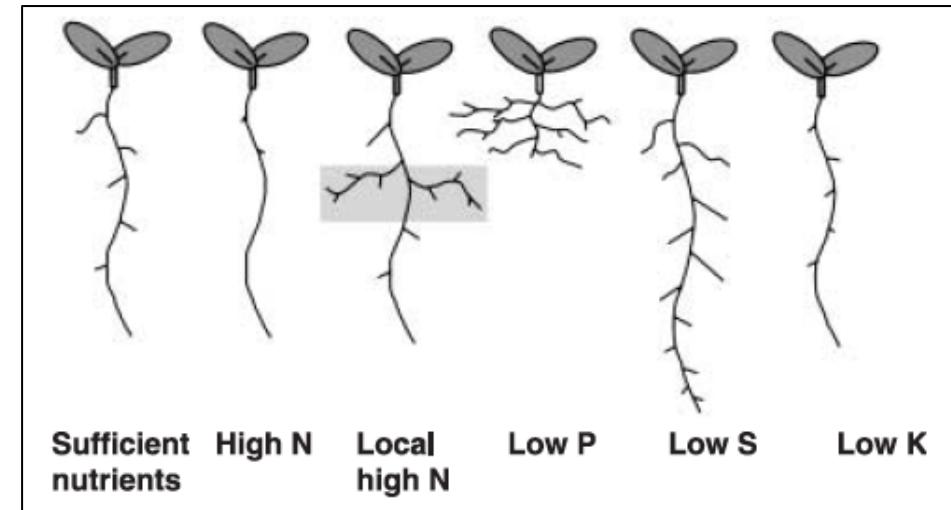
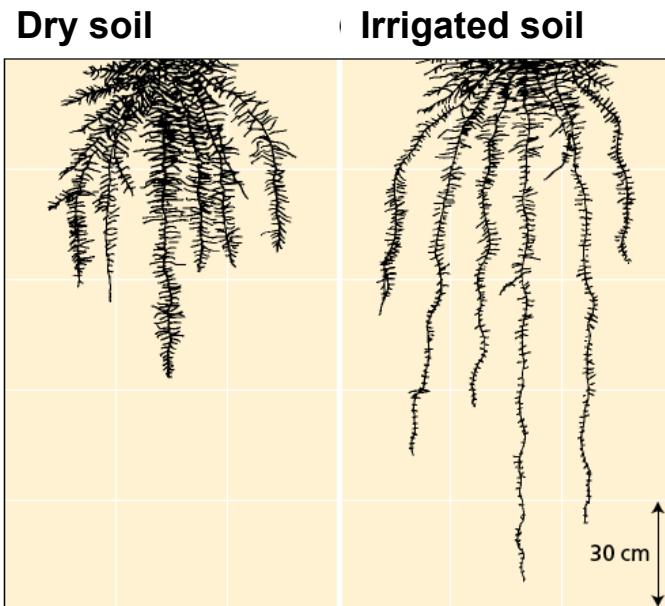
# The speed and degree of development depends on environmental conditions



The plant grows when  
photosynthesis  
+  
respiration  
+  
transpiration  
are in balance!

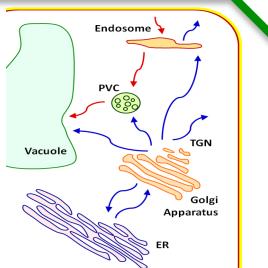


# Root developmental plasticity integrates dynamically different environmental stimulus



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**Protein trafficking:  
Regulation and  
Role in plant  
Development**



**Agro-chemical  
Biotechnology**



**Chilean strawberry  
Fruit Development**



**Funding**

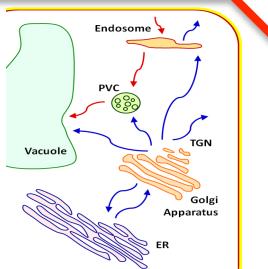


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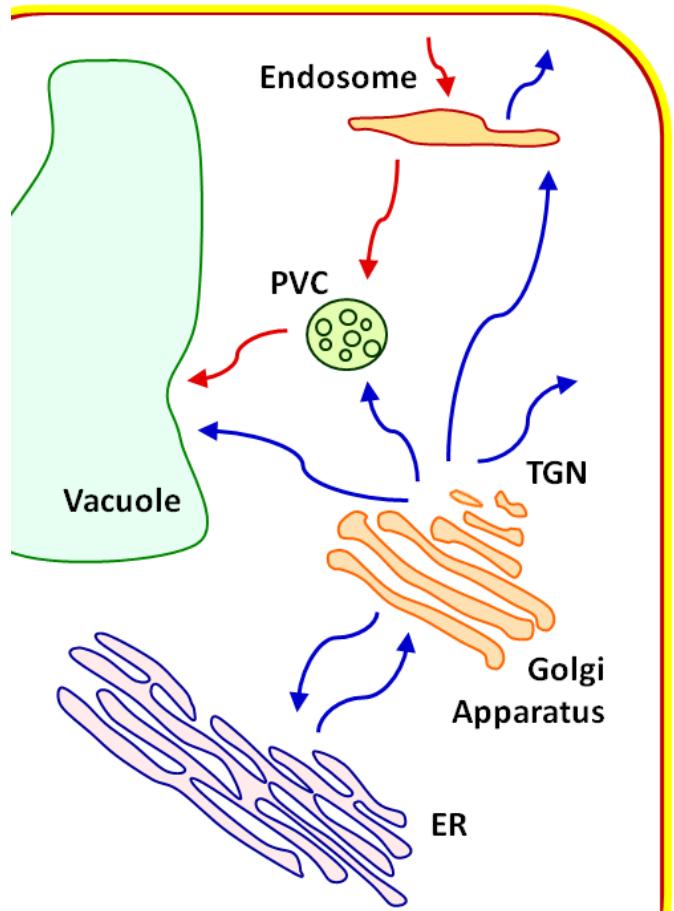
**Funding**



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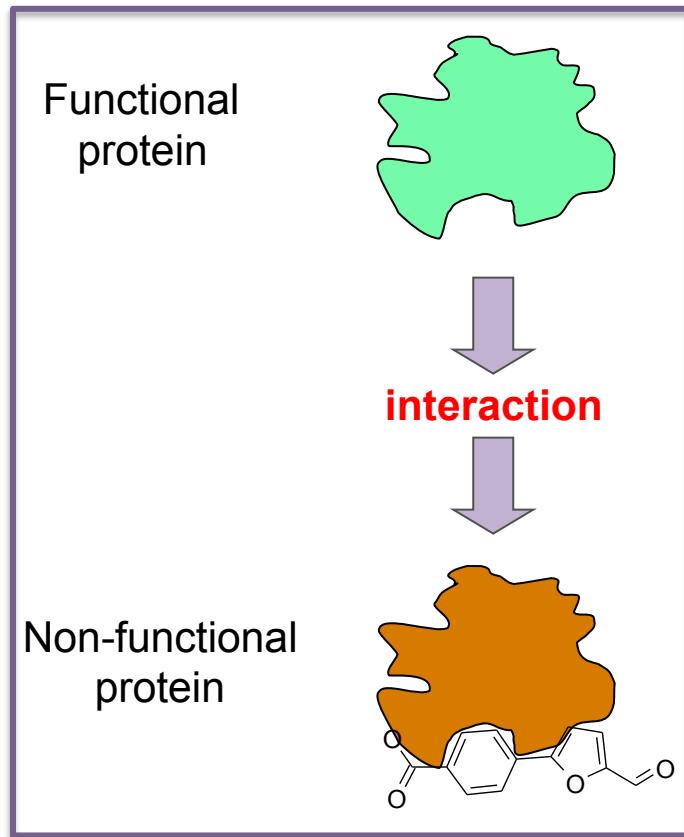
# Plant protein trafficking is required for physiological processes in plants



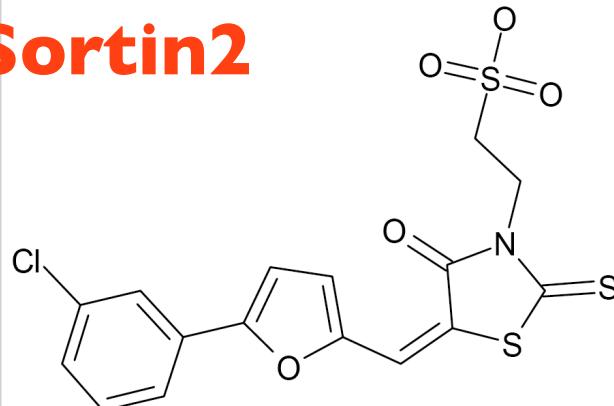
- Cellular maintenance:  
Protein synthesis, trafficking and sorting
  
- Polar axis establishment
- Development
- Gravitropic response
- Pathogen response
- Salt resistance

# The bioactive Sortin2 was identified on a chemical genomics screening

*Chemical genomics approach*

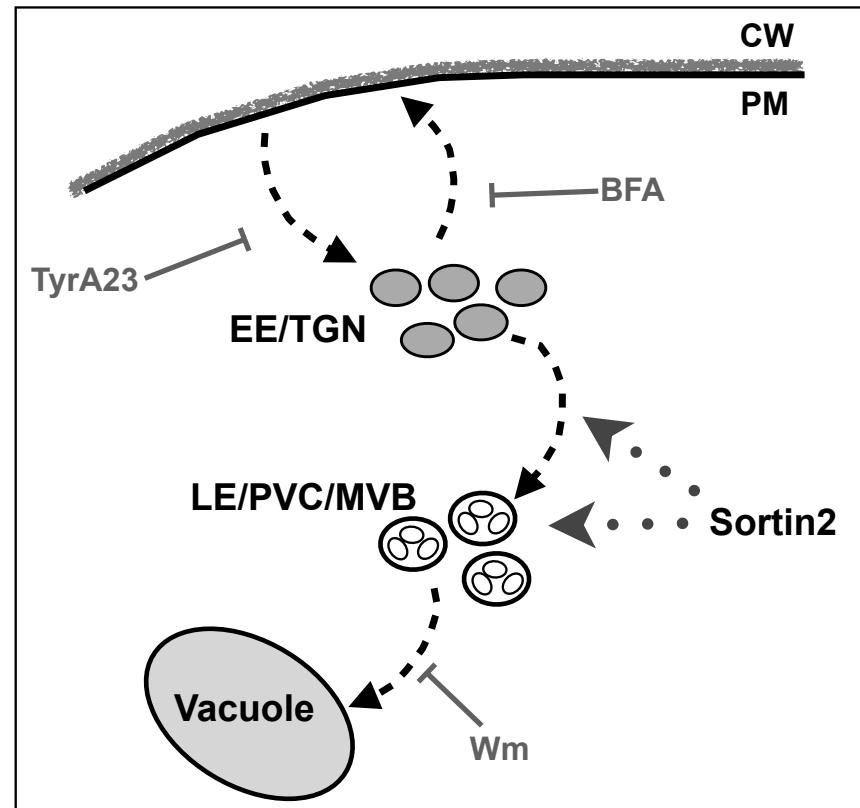


**Sortin2**

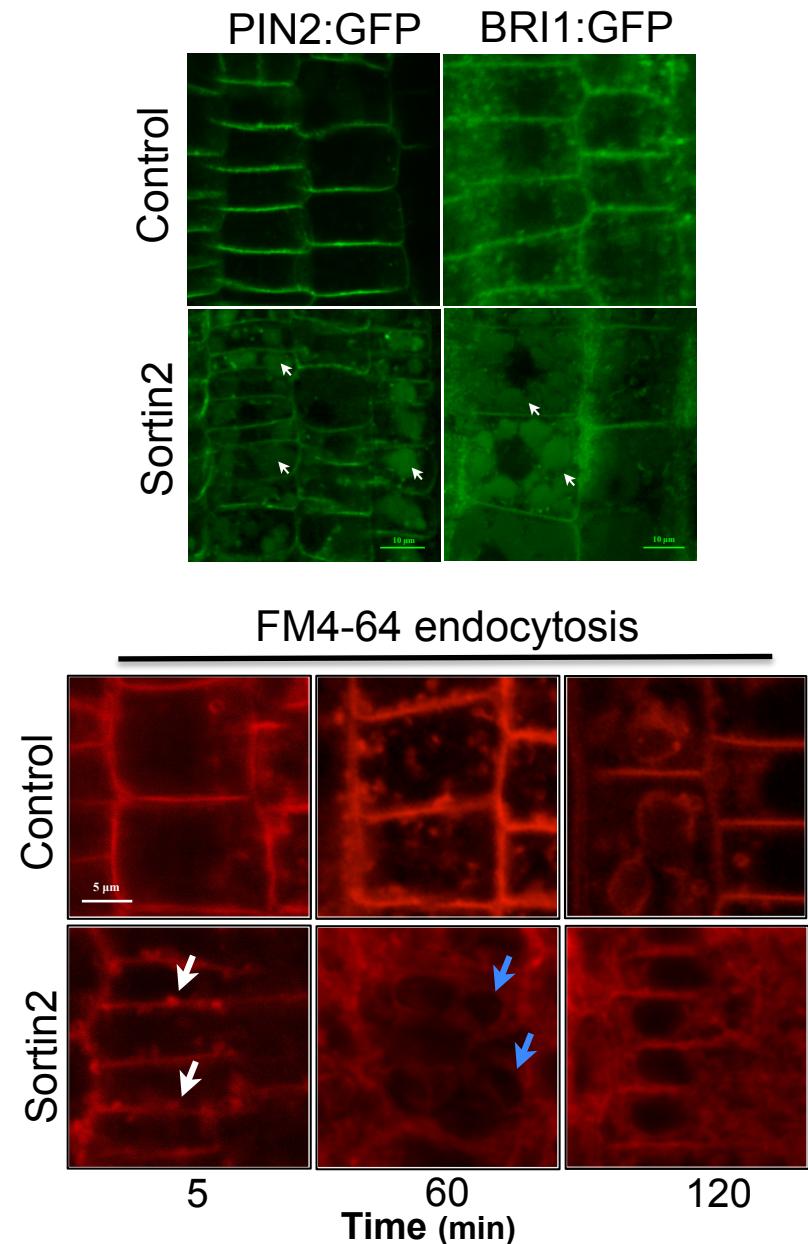


**Chemical genomics uses small molecules  
to perturb, study and control the  
cellular and physiological function of proteins**

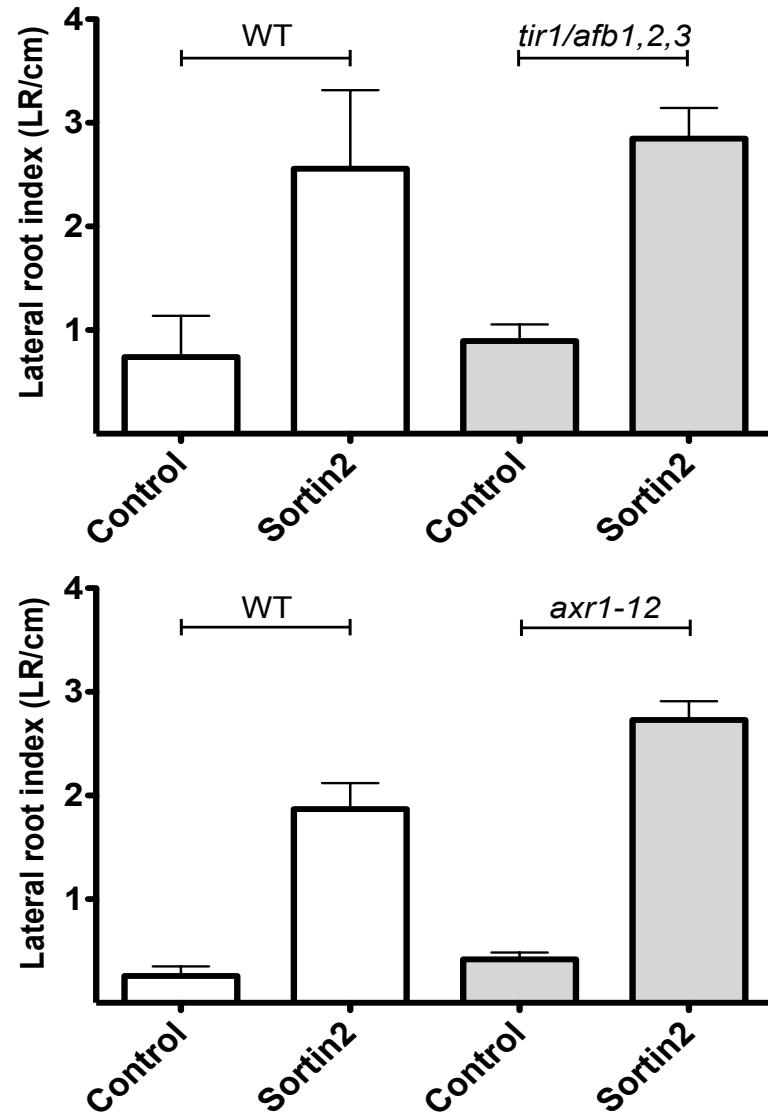
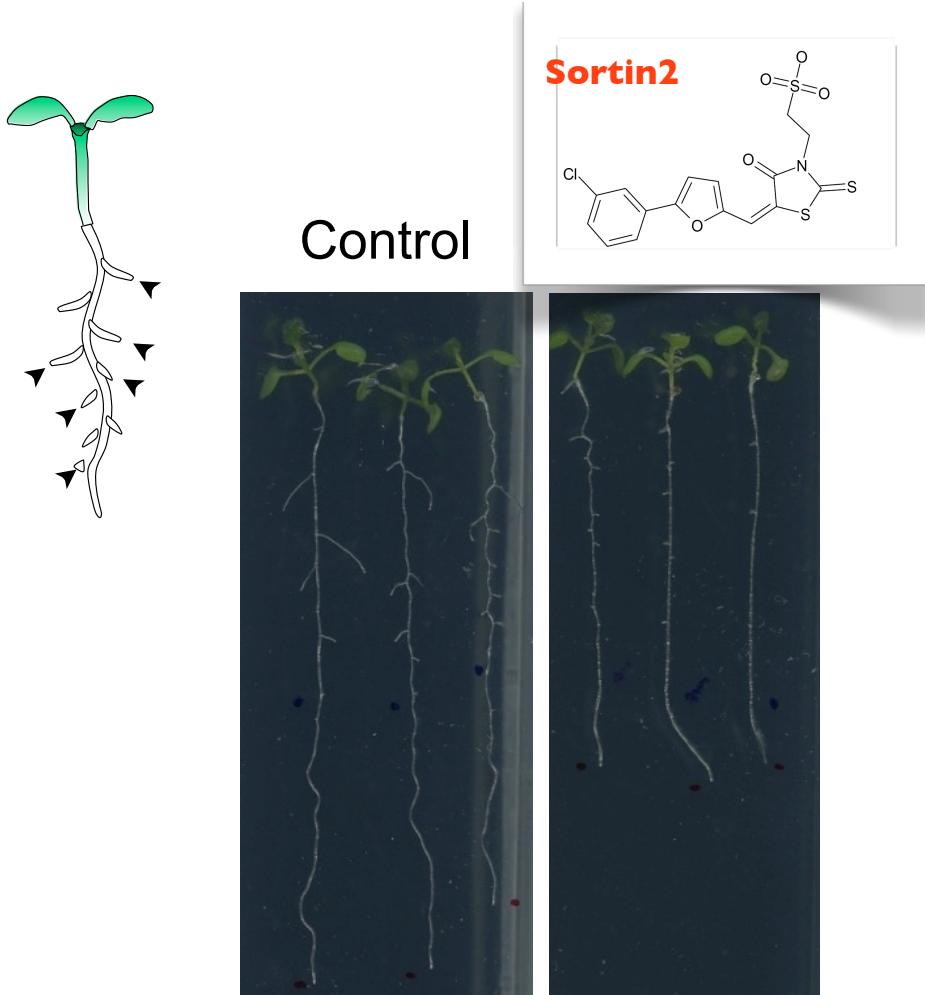
# Sortin2 induces endocytosis towards the vacuole



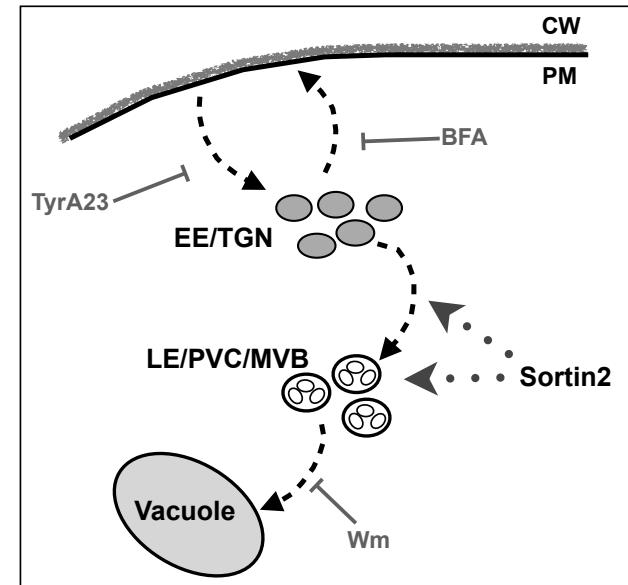
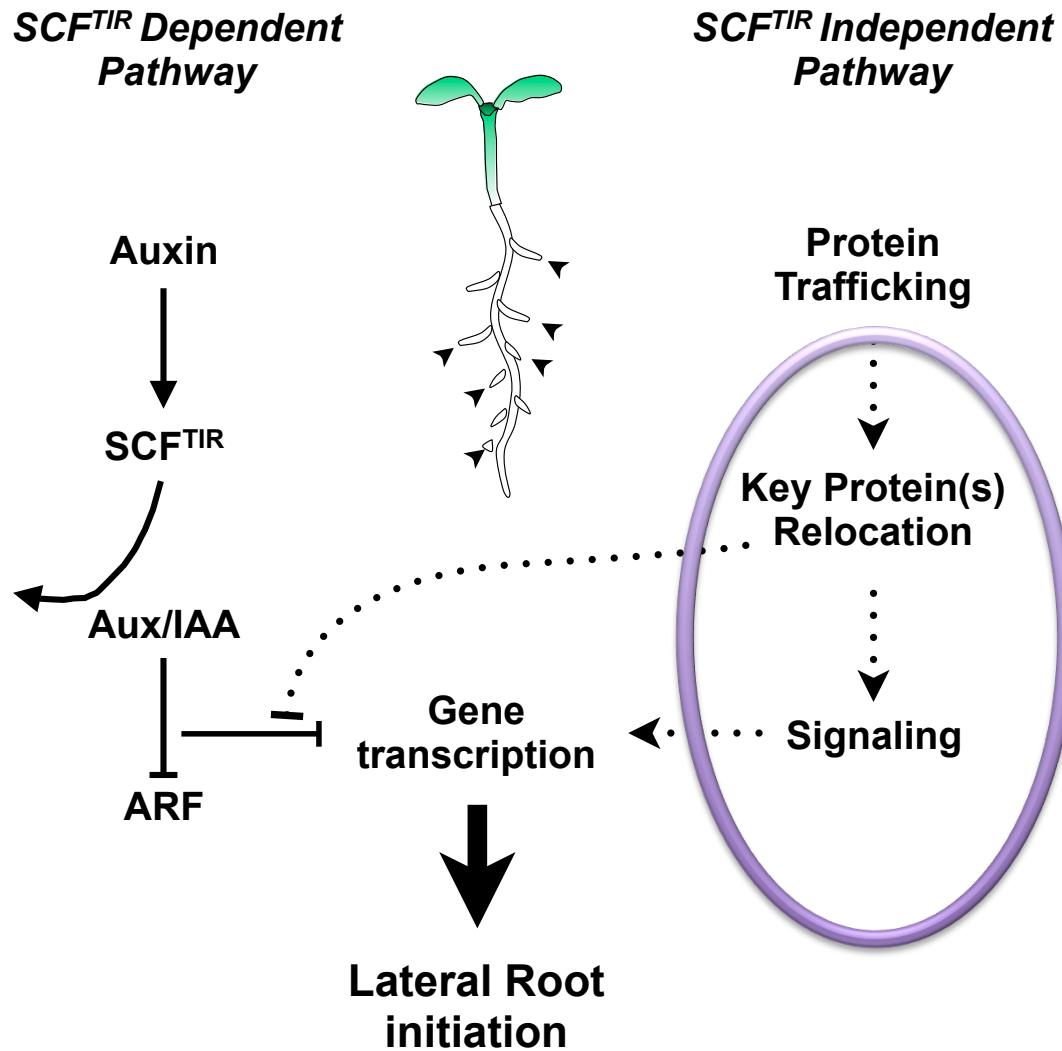
Peréz-Henríquez et al. (2012)  
Molecular Plant 5 (6): 1195-1209



# Sortin2 induces lateral roots independently of the SCFTIR auxin receptor

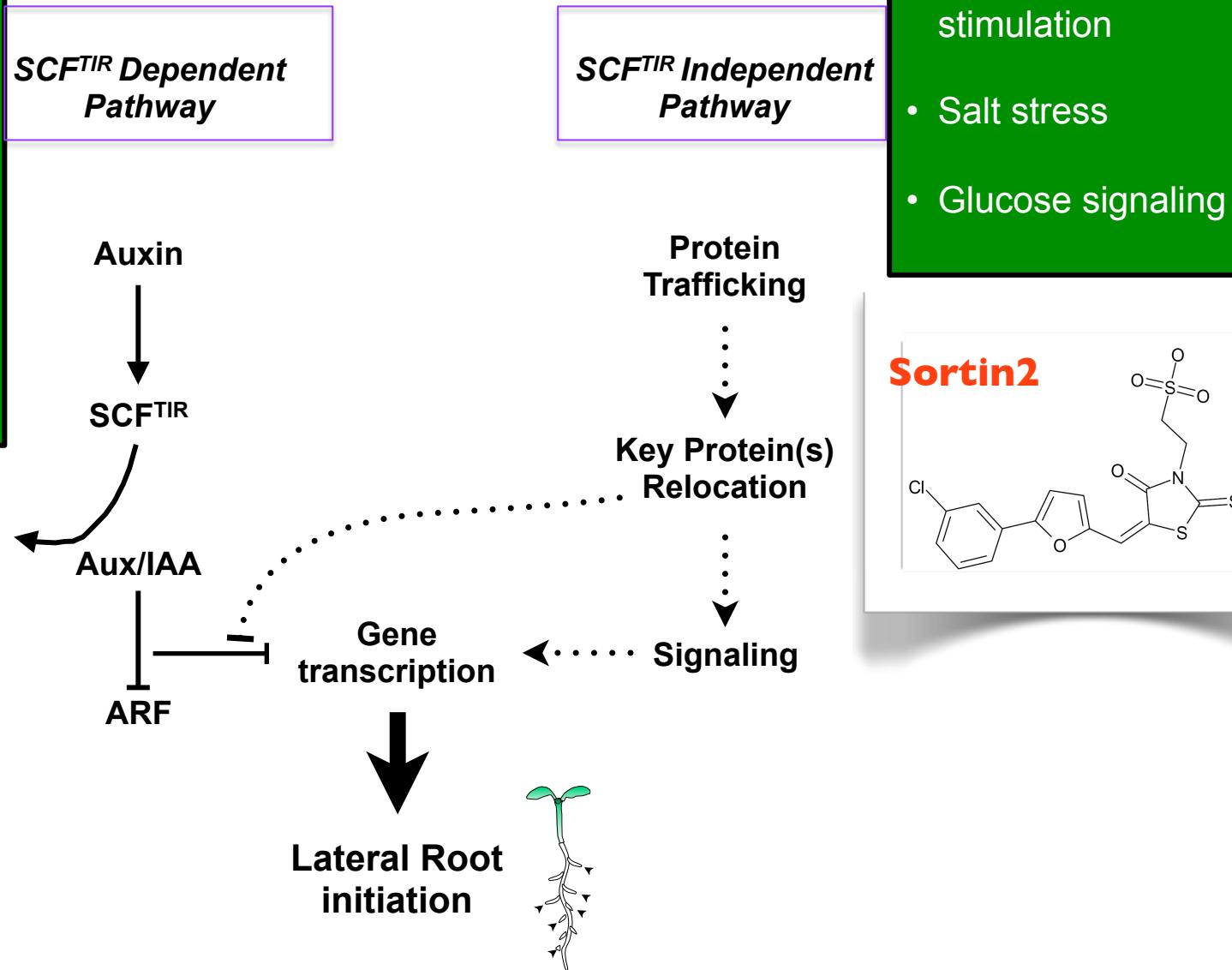


# Protein trafficking relocation leads lateral root development

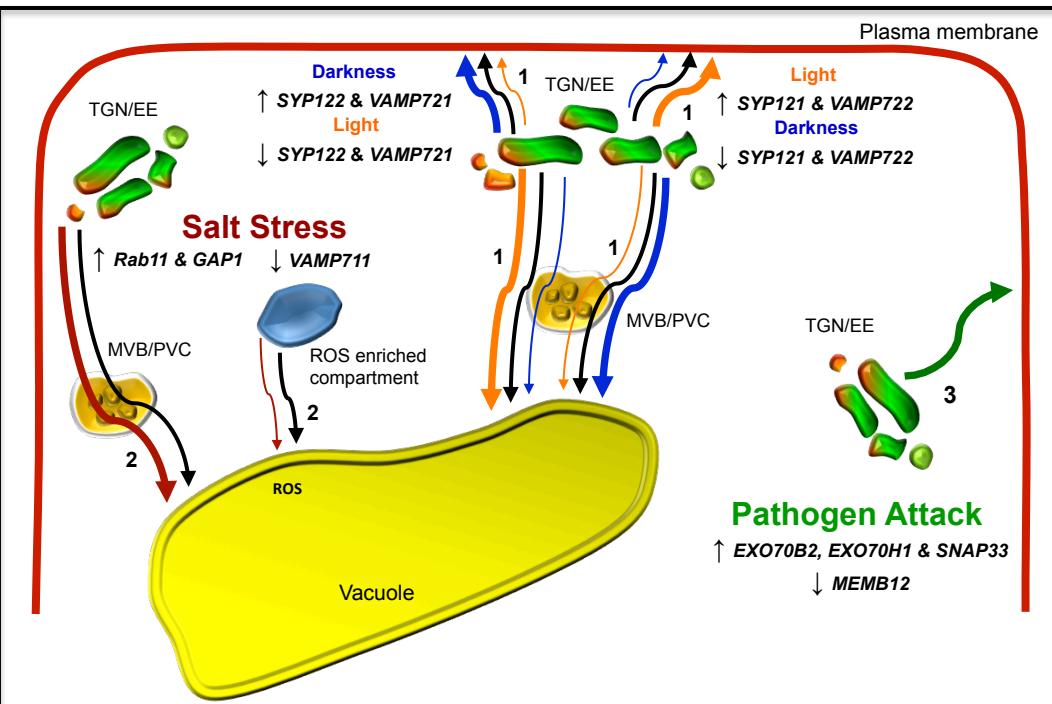


# Lateral root formation signaling

- Endogenous regulated growth
- Nitrogen deficiency
- Phosphate deficiency
- Sulphate deficiency
- Jasmonate-mediated pathogen response



# Protein trafficking is regulated upon environmental conditions



Pizarro & Norambuena, 2014

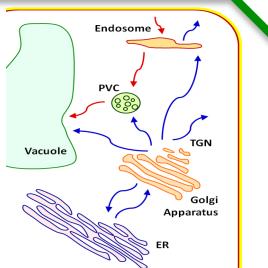
Endocytosis ratio



Salt resistance

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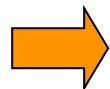
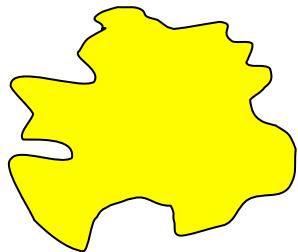
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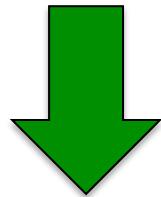
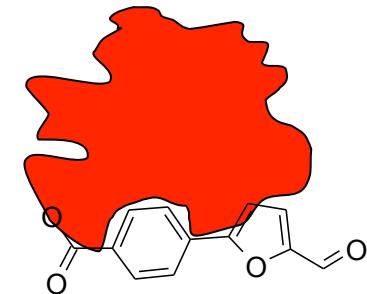
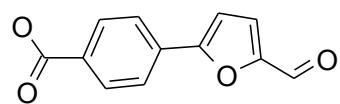
# Chemical Genomics uses small compounds to alter protein function

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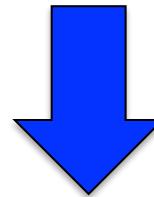
## Interaction



Biomodulator 1



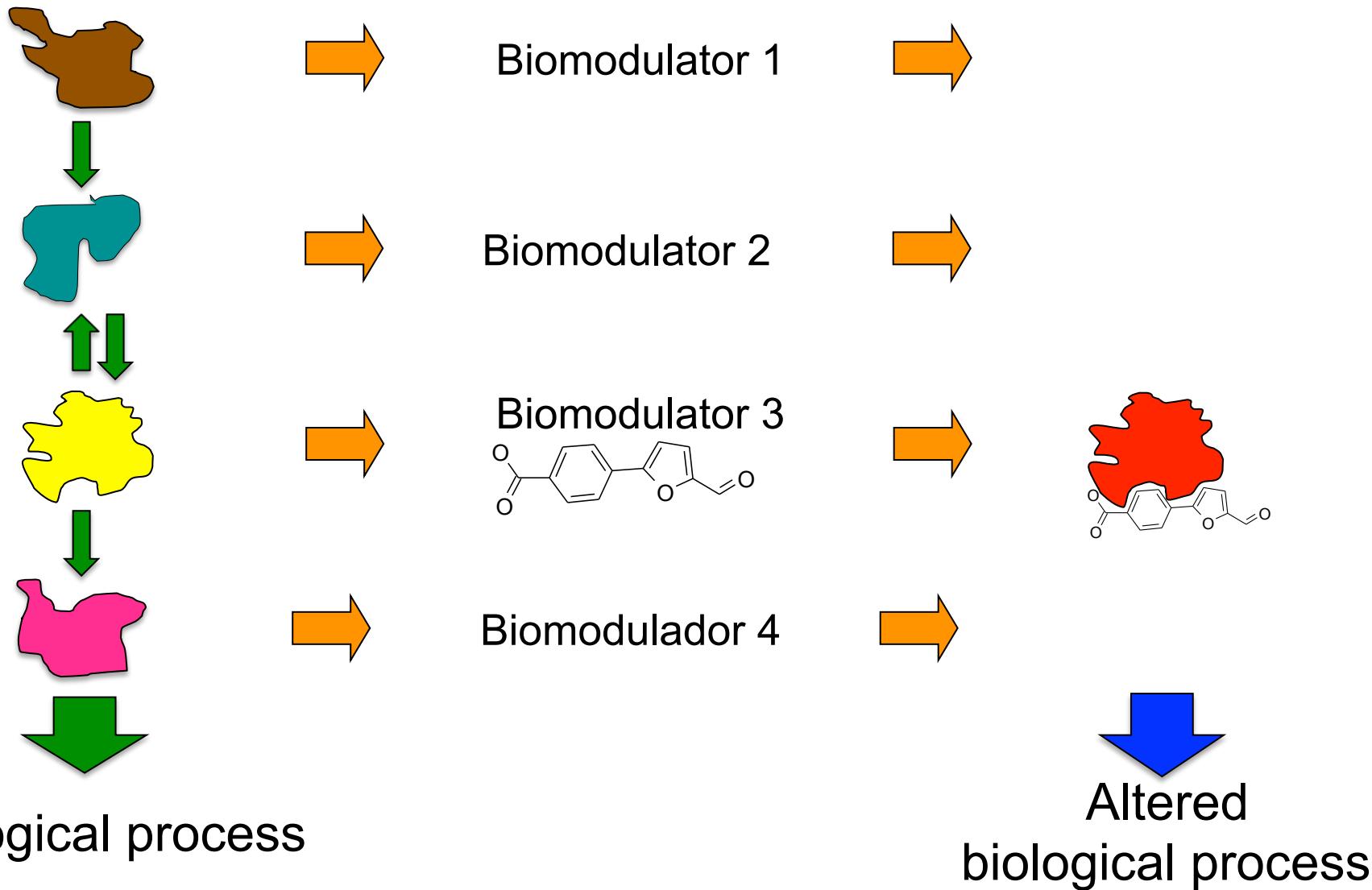
Biological process



Altered  
biological process

# Biology and Chemistry diversity: Powerful combination

## Interaction



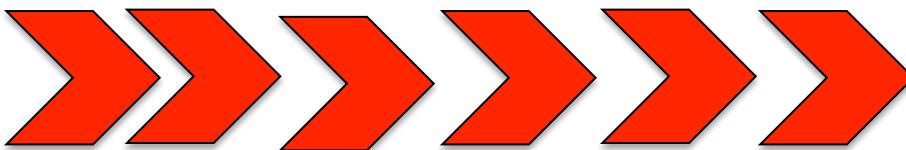
# Prototype test: “ex vitro” assay

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Arabidopsis growth biomodulator

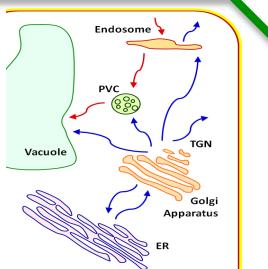


Example: Tomato plants



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# *Fragaria chiloensis*: a exotic fruit

- Strong smell and flavor
- Non climacteric fruit
- Pathogen resistance
- Low temperature and salt resistance



# Main Goal: getting to know *Fragaria chiloensis*

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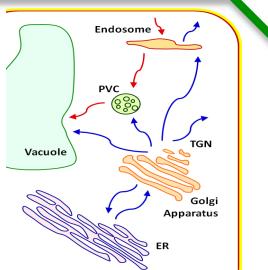
Determining the molecular bases that will lead to a better understanding of the traits that regulate fruit ripening in this species, in order to improve quality and favour its options in the national and international markets



**Anillo Joint Grant:** Universidad de Talca, Universidad de Chile and Universidad de Concepción  
Drs: Alejandra Moya, Raul Herrera, Michael Handford, Carlos Figueroa and Freddy Mora

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# Acknowledgments

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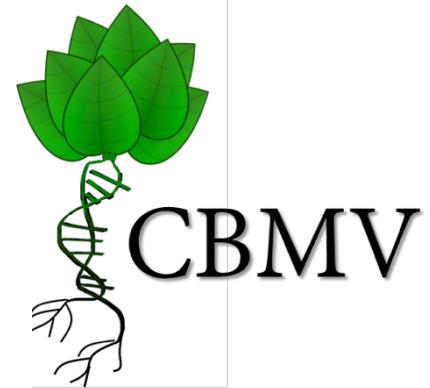
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Gobierno de Chile



To all members and former members of the lab

## Collaborators

- Dr **Miguel Allende**, Universidad de Chile, Chile
- Dr **Tom Beckman**, University of Gent, VIB, Belgium
- Dr. **Bruce Cassels**, Universidad de Chile, Chile
- Dr **Alvaro Glavic**, Universidad de Chile, Chile
- Dr **Rodrigo A Gutiérrez**, Pontificia Universidad Católica, Chile
- Dr **Michael Handford**, Universidad de Chile, Chile
- Dr **Raúl Herrera**, Universidad de Talca, Chile
- Dr **Glenn Hicks**, Institute for Integrative Genome Biology at UCR, US
- Dr **Alejandra Moya**, Universidad de Talca, Chile
- Dr **Ariel Orellana**, Universidad Andrés Bello
- Dr **Natasha Raikhel**, University of California Riverside, UCR, US
- Dr **Marcela Rojas-Pierce**, North Carolina State University, US
- Dr **Claudia Stange**, Universidad de Chile, Chile
- Dr **Jan Zouhar**, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain



*Muchas  
Gracias*

**Lorena Norambuena**

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