Dataset Brief

Title: Heterotrimeric G-protein-dependent proteome and phosphoproteome in unstimulated Arabidopsis roots

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Abbreviations
ARABIDOPSIS G-PROTEIN BETA SUBUNIT (AGB1)
BOTRYTIS-INDUCED KINASE1 (BIK1)

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EXTRA-LARGE G (XLS)

FERONIA (FER)
G-protein coupled receptors (GPCR)
G-protein coupled receptor kinases (GRK)
G-PROTEIN ALPHA SUBUNIT 1 (GPA1)
G-PROTEIN GAMMA SUBUNIT (AGG)
Gene Ontology (GO)
Guanosine diphosphate (GDP)
Guanosine triphosphate (GTP)
Mitogen-activated protein (MAP)
MAP KINASE 6 (MPK6)
NON-PHOTOTROPIC HYPOCOTYL 3 (NPH3)
Regulator of G Signaling (RGS)
Tandem Mass Tags (TMT)
Wild Type (WT)
WITH NO LYSINE (WNK)

ABSTRACT

The G-protein complex is a cytoplasmic on-off molecular switch that is set by plasma membrane receptors that activate upon binding of its cognate extracellular agonist. In animals, the default setting is the “off” resting state, while in plants, the default state is constitutively “on” but repressed by a plasma membrane receptor-like protein. De-repression appears to involve specific phosphorylation of key elements of the G-protein complex and possibly target proteins that are positioned downstream of this complex. To address this possibility, we quantified protein abundance and phosphorylation state in wild type and G-protein deficient Arabidopsis roots in the unstimulated resting state. A total of 3,246

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phosphorylated and 8,141 non-modified protein groups were identified. We found that 428 phosphorylation sites decreased and 509 sites increased in abundance in the G-protein quadrupole mutant lacking an operable G-protein-complex. Kinases with known roles in G-protein signaling including MAP KINASE 6 and FERONIA were differentially phosphorylated along with many other proteins now implicated in the control of G-protein signaling. Taken together, these datasets will enable the discovery of novel proteins and biological processes dependent on G-protein signaling.

In animals, the majority of extracellular signals, such as photons, small molecules, odorants, peptides and signaling proteins are discriminated by 7-transmembrane G-protein coupled receptors (GPCR) located on the plasma membrane [1]. Upon binding, the resulting “activated” GPCR becomes phosphorylated by kinases, typically GPCR kinases (GRK) and thus by forming a uniquely-altered state may recruit a cytoplasmic phosphosite-binding adaptor protein called β-arrestin [2]. The interaction between β-arrestin and the phosphorylated GPCR sets in motion a number of cell processes such as triggering a MAP kinase phosphorylation cascade [3]. Another pathway from activated GPCR to the initiation of cellular processes occurs by coupling to a cytoplasmic heterotrimeric G-protein complex. This complex is comprised of a guanine nucleotide-binding Gα subunit and a Gβγ obligate dimer [4]. The GPCR activates the complex by catalyzing the dissociation of GDP to allow for GTP binding which in turn, dissociates leaving both the G subunit and the G dimer to activate target proteins. The intrinsic GTP hydrolysis activity of the G subunit returns the complex back to the resting heterotrimeric state ready for re-activation within this G cycle. This GTPase reaction is sometimes accelerated by a cytoplasmic Regulator of G Signaling (RGS) protein [5].
In plants, regulation of the G cycle is dramatically different. The Gα subunit, despite having a nearly identical structure as the vertebrate G subunit [6,7], is active state in the absence of a GPCR. Modulation of the G cycle occurs by a receptor-like RGS protein; the prototype being Arabidopsis RGS1 (AtRGS1) [8]. AtRGS1 endocytosis [9] requires phosphorylation by members of the WITH NO LYSINE (WNK) kinase family [10] at serines in its C-terminal tail [11]. Other serines on RGS proteins are either predicted or shown to be phosphorylated [12] suggesting a phospho-barcode is utilized to direct different AtRGS1 functions.

Besides AtRGS1, there are other components of the Arabidopsis G-protein complex [13]: one canonical Gα subunit (AtGPA1), one Gβ subunit, three Gγ subunits with one being atypical having a transmembrane domain [14], and three atypical Gα subunits [15]. These EXTRA-LARGE G subunits (XLG) have homology to the canonical G subunits but critical structure for nucleotide binding is absent suggesting that these G-proteins act independently of GTP [16]. Nonetheless, these atypical G subunits bind the Gβγ dimer and loss of the Arabidopsis Gβ subunit AGB1 in an agb1 null mutant abolishes function of both the canonical and atypical G subunit-dependent functions [15,17].

XLG2 is phosphorylated on the N-terminal half by a cytoplasmic kinase, BIK1 [18] and may modulate a cellular process in innate immunity. The canonical Gα subunit AtGPA1 is phosphorylated by a receptor kinase that operates in the innate immunity pathway [19]. A phosphomimetic AtGPA1 mutant switches the behavior of AtRGS1 on this substrate in a novel mechanism called “substrate phosphoswitching”. Thus, it is abundantly clear that several key elements of the plant G cycle are phosphorylated suggesting that feed backs and feed forward controls utilize reversible phosphorylation. The extent of this G-protein dependent phosphorylation is unknown as are the kinases involved and their substrates.

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In this study, we performed quantitative proteomics to uncover changes in protein abundance and phosphorylation state that result from altered G-protein signaling. For this we examined wild-type (WT) as well as quadruple mutant plants deficient in Gα, Gβ, and two out of the three Gγ subunits, in Arabidopsis \[^{20}\]. Specifically, we grew WT Columbia (Col-0) and \(gpal-4, agbl-2, aggl-1,\) and \(agg2-1\) quadruple mutant (designated \(quad\) hereafter) plants on agar plates \[^{20}\]. After 12 days we harvested root tissue from three independent biological replicates, per genotype, for proteomic analyses (See Supporting Methods for details). We extracted proteins using urea and processed them into peptides via in solution digestion \[^{21,22}\]. One hundred and thirty \(\mu\)g of peptides, for each biological replicate, was then labeled with six-plex Tandem Mass Tags (TMT) \[^{23,24}\]. TMT-labeled samples were pooled and 30 \(\mu\)g were used directly to quantify protein abundance (i.e. non-modified proteome) by 2D-LC-MS/MS. The remaining 750 \(\mu\)g of pooled TMT labeled peptides was subjected to phosphopeptide enrichment using Titansphere Phos-TiO\(_2\) beads prior to 2D-LC-MS/MS analysis. 2D-LC/MS/MS was performed using online strong cation exchange (SCX) as the first dimension and low pH reverse-phase as the second dimension to deliver peptides to a Q Exactive Plus mass spectrometer \[^{22,25}\]. Finally, we used MaxQuant \[^{26}\] to identify peptides, localize phosphorylation sites, and quantify protein and phosphorylation abundance (Figure 1A).

We identified 8,141 protein groups (i.e. proteins) from the non-modified proteome analysis. For further quantitative analyses, we focused on the 6,632 protein groups that had TMT intensity values greater than zero (Figure 1B and Supplemental Table 1). Additionally, from the phosphopeptide enriched material we quantified the level of 6,989 Class I (localization probability \(\geq 0.75\)), 1,949 Class II (0.75 > localization probability \(\geq 0.5\)), and 1,911 class III (localization probability < 0.5) phosphorylation sites arising from 3,246...
phosphoproteins (Figure 1B and Supplemental Table 2). Examination of the identified phosphoproteins revealed 415 proteins are not present in the PhosPhAt database (Supplemental Table 2), which curates known Arabidopsis phosphoproteins [27]. For further analyses, we focused on the Class I and Class II phosphorylation sites. Finally, we examined reproducibility of the biological replicate analyses and found high Pearson correlation values ($r > 0.97$) for all replicates (Supplemental Figures 1 and 2).

Next, we identified proteins and phosphorylation sites that were altered in abundance in the *quad* mutant plants. For these statistical analyses we used the software package Perseus [28,29] to calculate two-sample *t*-tests and perform permutation-based false discovery rate (FDR) correction. We designated proteins/phosphorylation sites as differentially accumulating if they had a $P$-value $\leq 0.05$ and a $q$-value $\leq 0.1$ (i.e. FDR-adjusted $P$-value). This revealed 177 proteins that decreased and 670 that increased in abundance in the *quad* mutant relative to WT plants (Figure 2A, Supplemental Figure 3 and Supplemental Table 1). Furthermore, 428 phosphorylation sites decreased and 509 sites increased in abundance in the *quad* mutant (Figure 2B, Supplemental Figure 3 and Supplemental Table 2). Taken together these results demonstrate extensive alteration of phosphoproteome composition in G-protein signaling deficient plants.

To gain insight into the biological processes that are impacted by altered G-protein signaling in the *quad* mutants we performed gene ontology (GO) enrichment analyses. For this we used Panther to examine enrichment of both full GO and GO-SLIM annotation sets [30] (Figure 3 and Supplemental Tables 3&4). Consistent with a deficiency in G-protein signaling in the *quad* mutants numerous GO terms related to G-proteins were overrepresented in proteins exhibiting decreased phosphorylation levels (Figure 3 and Supplemental Table 4). Additionally, GO terms related to biological processes known to be impacted by G-protein
signaling such as hexose biosynthesis, cell wall, and, gibberellin are overrepresented among proteins that were decreased in abundance in the quad mutant (Supplemental Table 3).

Finally, we examined the list of differentially phosphorylated proteins in the quad mutant to determine if any are known interactors of GPA1, AGB1, AGG1, and/or AGG2 based on previous reports. This analysis revealed 24 known interactors that are differentially phosphorylated in the quad mutant (Supplemental Table 2). For example, XLG2 and XLG3 exhibit decreased phosphorylation in quad plants. Additionally, multiple interacting kinases, with known roles in G-protein signaling, including MAP KINASE 6 (MPK6) and FERONIA (FER), are differentially phosphorylated. Furthermore, NON-PHOTOTROPIC HYPOCOTYL 3 (NPH3), which interacts with AGB1 and the blue light photoreceptor NPH1 to link G-protein and phototropic responses, is dephosphorylated in the quad mutant.

In summary, we have performed in depth protein abundance and phosphorylation state profiling of G-protein signaling deficient plants. The observations highlighted above suggest that these datasets will enable the discovery of novel proteins and biological processes dependent on G-protein signaling.

**Data Availability**

Raw data files and MaxQuant Search results have been deposited in the Mass Spectrometry Interactive Virtual Environment (MassIVE) repository: [https://massive.ucsd.edu/ProteoSAFe/static/massive.jsp](https://massive.ucsd.edu/ProteoSAFe/static/massive.jsp) with dataset identifier: MSV000082838.
Acknowledgments

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The authors declare no conflict of interest.

References


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Figure Legends

**Figure 1.** Quantitative proteomics of a G-protein deficient quadrupole mutant. **A**) Workflow overview where protein from three biological replicates of WT and three biological replicates of *quad* mutant plants is isolated and digested into peptides prior to isobaric labeling with TMT. The pooled TMT samples are then either directly analyzed by 2D-LC-MS/MS to quantify protein abundance or used for phosphopeptide enrichment with Titansphere Phos-TiO$_2$ beads prior to analysis. **B**) Summary of the number of identified MS/MS, distinct peptides, protein groups, and phosphorylation sites in this study.

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<th>Non-Modified Proteome</th>
<th>Phosphoproteome</th>
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<td>Collected MS/MS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Protein Groups</td>
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**Figure 2.** Plants deficient in G-protein signaling exhibit extensive alteration in protein and phosphorylation levels. Hierarchical clustering of 847 differentially accumulating proteins (A) and 937 phosphorylation sites (B) in *quad* mutant plants.
Figure 3. Gene Ontology enrichment analyses of G-protein deficient plants. Fold-enrichment of GO-SLIM Molecular Function terms for proteins that decrease (A), proteins that increase (B), phosphorylation sites that decrease (C), or sites that increase (D) in *quad* mutants. Graphed data are all GO-SLIM Molecular Function terms that exhibit statically significant enrichment (*P*-value ≤ 0.05).