

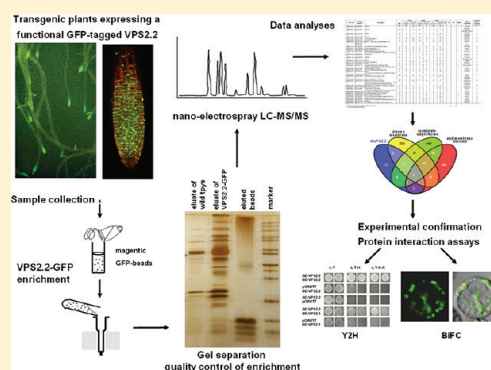
# Interactome of the Plant-specific ESCRT-III Component AtVPS2.2 in *Arabidopsis thaliana*

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S Supporting Information

**ABSTRACT:** The endosomal sorting complexes required for transport (ESCRT) guides transmembrane proteins to domains that bud away from the cytoplasm. The ESCRT machinery consists of four complexes. ESCRT complexes 0–II are important for cargo recognition and concentration via ubiquitin binding. Most of the membrane bending function is mediated by the large multimeric ESCRT-III complex and associated proteins. Here we present the first *in vivo* proteome analysis of a member of the ESCRT-III complex which is unique to the plant kingdom. We show with LC–MS/MS, yeast-two-hybrid (Y2H) and bimolecular fluorescence complementation (BiFC) that coimmunoprecipitated proteins from *Arabidopsis thaliana* roots expressing a functional GFP-tagged VACUOLAR PROTEIN SORTING 2.2 (AtVPS2.2) protein are members of the ESCRT-III complex and associated proteins. Therefore we propose that at least in plants the large ESCRT-III membrane scaffolding complex consists of a mixture of SNF7, VPS2 and the associated VPS46 and VPS60 proteins. Apart from transmembrane proteins, numerous membrane-associated but also nuclear and extracellular proteins have been identified, indicating that AtVPS2.2 might be involved in processes beyond the classical ESCRT role. This study is the first *in vivo* proteome analysis with a tagged ESCRT-III component demonstrating the feasibility of this approach and provides numerous starting points for the investigation of the biological process in which AtVPS2.2 is involved.

**KEYWORDS:** ESCRT-III, AtVPS2.2, GFP-tagged, coimmunoprecipitation, LC–MS/MS, yeast two-hybrid, bimolecular fluorescence complementation, *in vivo*, dynamins



## INTRODUCTION

Eukaryotic cells comprise a highly dynamic vesicular trafficking system that selects and delivers proteins and lipids to different cellular locations. On the crossroad between endocytosis, secretion and transport to the vacuoles or lysosomes are sorting endosomes and multivesicular bodies (MVBs).<sup>1,2</sup> Membrane proteins dedicated for either lysosomal/vacuolar degradation and functions or exosomal release are sequestered into MVB intraluminal vesicles (ILV).<sup>3,4</sup> MVBs fuse with lysosomes/vacuoles to deliver ILVs and their contents. In the secretory or recycling pathway, MVBs fuse with the plasma membrane and release the ILVs into the extracellular milieu.<sup>5,6</sup> In recent studies, MVBs are suggested to promote recycling of the RNA-induced silencing complex (RISC) and/or their competence in loading small RNAs.<sup>7,8</sup>

Both the biogenesis of MVBs and the sorting of cargoes into the ILVs depend on the evolutionary conserved endosomal sorting complex required for transport (ESCRT) system. The ESCRT machinery consists of at least four complexes (ESCRT-0 to -III) and associated proteins. ESCRT-0, -I, -II components are involved in cargo selection via binding to their ubiquitin

modifications and recruit ESCRT-III. ESCRT-III mediates the biogenesis of MVBs by exerting membrane bending, scission and fusion. At the plasma membrane, ESCRT-III has topological similar functions such as the budding of enveloped viruses and the abscission of the plasma membrane during cytokinesis.<sup>9,10</sup> Some of the newest addition to ESCRT-III functions is the control of autophagosome fusions in yeast, worm, fly and mammalian cells (reviewed in refs 9, 11, 12), of vacuolar integrity<sup>13</sup> and of peroxisomal invaginations.<sup>14</sup> ESCRT-III together with its associated proteins are the most ancient and conserved components of the ESCRT-complexes. In Archaea, which have no endomembrane system, ESCRT-III components polymerize between segregating nucleotides during cell division<sup>15</sup> and have also been found in secreted vesicles.<sup>16</sup>

Most components of the ESCRT machinery have been identified in genetic screens affecting vacuolar protein sorting and

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therefore are named VPS (VACUOLAR PROTEIN SORTING) in yeast. The human orthologs are termed after their physicochemical properties and localization as CHARGED MULTIVESICULAR BODY PROTEINS or CHROMATIN MODIFYING PROTEIN (CHMPs).<sup>17</sup> The four core components of the ESCRT-III complex, VPS20/CHMP6, SNF7 (SUCROSE NON FERMENTING7)/CHMP4, VPS2/CHMP2, VPS24/CHMP3 and the associated proteins VPS46/CHMP1, VPS60/CHMP5 are small soluble, highly charged proteins that share a common tertiary structure consisting of six  $\alpha$ -helices.<sup>18–20</sup> Despite this structural similarity, the proteins are not functionally redundant and operate in a defined order.<sup>21–23</sup> While the initiation of ESCRT-III spirals on membranes needs at least two copies of VPS20/CHMP6, the heteropolymeric spiral consists mostly of SNF7/CHMP4 molecules and is capped by few molecules of VPS2/CHMP2 and VPS24/CHMP3.<sup>24</sup> The C-terminal fragment of all ESCRT-III components is able to activate the AAA ATPase, VPS4/SUPPRESSOR OF K<sup>+</sup> TRANSPORT GROWTH DEFECT (SKD1) which disassembles the heteropolymers.<sup>25,26</sup> The assembly of the ESCRT-III spiral on the cytoplasmic side of membranes and on deformed, tubular and dome-like membranes is congruent with ESCRT-III's role in membrane budding away from the cytoplasm. These budding events are important during the biogenesis of interluminal vesicles of MVBs, and at the plasma membrane for the release of enveloped viruses, exosomes in animal cells and membrane vesicles in the Archaea.

We have shown that all of the ESCRT-III components and their associated proteins are present in plants.<sup>27</sup> Recent genetic studies reported that mutants of *AtVPS4/AtSKD1* and *AtCHMP2A/AtVPS2.1* are lethal<sup>28</sup> and a dominant negative version interferes with vacuolar protein trafficking and maintenance once expressed in *Arabidopsis thaliana* trichomes.<sup>13</sup> Furthermore double mutants of ESCRT-III associated *AtCHMP1B/AtVPS46.1* are severely compromised in embryo development.<sup>29</sup>

Only few ESCRT-III interactors have been identified to date. Apart from the recent finding in *Arabidopsis* that the deubiquitinating enzyme AMSH3 interacts specifically with the classical AtVPS2.1 protein<sup>30</sup> all other studies have been carried out in yeast or human cells.<sup>31</sup> Therefore we took advantage of the functional GFP-tagged AtVPS2.2 protein as bait to immunoprecipitate and identify *in vivo* interactors with mass-spectrometry. Among the 89 proteins recognized by this proteomic approach, 35 were considered as specific interactors of AtVPS2.2. Consistent with AtVPS2.2 as putative component of the ESCRT-III complex AtSNF7.1 and AtVPS2.1 were found in the pulled down fraction. However novel interactions with ESCRT-III associated proteins AtCHMP1A/AtVPS46.1, AtCHMP1B/AtVPS46.2 and AtVPS60.1 were identified and confirmed by yeast two hybrid (Y2H) and bifluorescence complementation (BiFC) analyses.

Comparison of AtVPS2.2 interactors with 45 published proteomic analyses of *Arabidopsis thaliana* and related species such as *Brassica napus* and *Brassica oleracea* revealed that approximately one-third has also been identified in vacuolar and extracellular protein extracts. The largest overlap with the published proteomic studies is for 20 proteins that have been isolated in membrane fractions. About half of them are annotated as plasma membrane associated proteins and include the water channel protein AtPIP1B, the H<sup>+</sup> ATPase 1 AtAHA1, six dynamin-related proteins and phospholipase D alpha 1 (PLD $\alpha$ 1). Similar to ESCRT-III components, dynamins deform

membranes in such a way that fusion and fission can occur.<sup>32–36</sup> However, the classical mechanochemical property and topology of dynamins is the opposite supporting budding into the cytoplasm.<sup>37</sup> We propose a model integrating this conjectural difference of ESCRT-III and dynamins.

The conclusion that the role of AtVPS2.2 may lie beyond the membrane deformation and fission function is supported by the large fraction of proteins annotated in and isolated from nuclei and the localization of AtVPS2.2-GFP in the nucleus. Interestingly early findings in mammalian cells report the association of CHMP1 with the transcriptional repressor polycomb-like protein (Pcl) on condensed chromatin.<sup>17</sup>

This study is the first proteomic analysis with an ESCRT-III component pointing to its role in the nucleus and as component of subdomains of membranes enriched with dynamins and PLD $\alpha$ 1.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

### Plant Material, Growth Conditions and Transformation

Wild-type accession Columbia (Col) was obtained from the Arabidopsis Stock Centers (Arabidopsis Biological Resource Center, ABRC, Columbus, USA and European Arabidopsis Stock Center, NASC, Nottingham, UK). Provenance of the *vps2-3/hya-3* was described in.<sup>38</sup> Plant growth conditions on sterile nutrient agar medium were described previously.<sup>39</sup> Plant transformation was done according to the floral dip protocol of Clough and Bent into wild-type (Col) and mutant *vps2.2-3* background.<sup>40</sup> The MM2d cell suspension culture was obtained from Aventis CropScience and maintained after the protocol of Menges and Murray.<sup>41</sup> For protoplast transformation, we principally followed the protocol of Sheen<sup>42</sup> with 50 mL of a five day old MM2D culture.

### Cloning of AtVPS2.2-GFP and Functional Complementation

Genomic DNA was isolated from seedlings by a modified Cetyltrimethylammoniumbromid (CTAB) method.<sup>43</sup> A fragment of 3.3 kb from the At5g44560 gene including 2141 bp coding, 644 bp promoter, 124 bp 5', 175 bp 3' untranslated and 214 bp 3' noncoding sequences, was amplified from genomic DNA with primers 5g44560-5Bam and 5g44560-3Bam and cloned into the BamHI site of the pPZP211 plasmid. The final construct (pPZP-AtVPS2.2) was verified by sequencing and transformed into *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* (GV3101) by electroporation. For cloning of AtVPS2.2-GFP, a 2807 bp subfragment of pPZP211-AtVPS2.2 was PCR amplified using primer 5g44560\_GFP\_SacI\_pm and 5g44560\_GFP\_NcoI\_R, and subcloned into pCR4-TOPO for sequence verification. Using SacI/NcoI the insert was transferred to the binary GFP-containing vector pGreenII0029-35S-GFP-RL replacing the 35S promoter. The final construct AtVPS2.2-GFP was transformed into *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* strain GV3101pSoup by electroporation and used to transform wild-type (WS, Col) and *hya/vps2.2-2*, *hya/vps2.2-3* plants. Transformants were selected on MS medium containing kanamycin (100  $\mu$ g mL<sup>-1</sup>). The functionality of transgenic lines was determined with root growth measurements on seven day qold seedlings.

### Microscopic Analyses

Protoplasts from the BiFC assays, roots of Col;AtVPS2.2-GFP and the F1 of a cross between Col;AtVPS2.2-GFP and the trans-Golgi network (TGN) marker VHAA1-mRFP were observed under the stereomicroscope (DC500, Leica, Germany) and with

the confocal laser scanning microscope (CLSM) (TCS-SP2 and SPS II, Leica, Germany). Whole seedlings were mounted either in water or low melting agarose (LM; 1/2 MS, 1% sucrose) on slides with petroleum jelly borders to create a chamber. To visualize the nuclei 5 days old seedlings were fixed in 3.7% formaldehyde in 1× PBT (130 mM NaCl, 10 mM phosphate puffer pH 7.0, 0.1% Tween 20) for 3 h, washed extensively with 40 mL 1× PBT, stained with 1  $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$  4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI) for 3 min, washed again extensively with 40 mL tap water and mounted. Excitation wavelengths were 405 nm for DAPI, 488 nm (argon laser) for GFP/YFP and 561 nm for mRFP. Emissions were detected between 425 and 480 nm for DAPI, 500–535 nm for GFP, 518–548 nm for YFP and 570–651 nm for mRFP. Images were taken with a long distance 63× water-immersion objective. Pictures were prepared for publication with the Leica LAS AF Lite, ImageJ and Paint Shop Pro 5 software.

### Plant Extraction and Western Blot

Roots and shoots of approximately 50 16-days old seedlings expressing AtVPS2.2-GFP and a control GFP-construct were harvested lysed with 150  $\mu\text{L}$  cracking buffer (60 mM Tris pH 6.8, 1% 2-mercaptoethanol, 1% SDS; 10% glycerol, 0.01% bromophenol blue) and denatured for 10 min at 95 °C. Fifteen  $\mu\text{L}$  of these extracts were loaded on a 12% SDS-PAGE and blotted overnight at 4 °C in 1× TB (50 mM Tris/HCl pH 8.3, 50 mM boric acid) with continuous 30 V on a PVDF membrane (Roth, Germany). The membrane was blocked with 5% low fat milk powder in 1× TBST (20 mM Tris.HCl, pH 7.5 and 137 mM NaCl, 0.1% Tween 20) for 1 h at room temperature. The AtVPS2.2-GFP fusion protein was detected in 1× TBST with anti-GFP (Roche, 1:1000) as primary, antimouse IgG-HRP (horseradish peroxidase) as secondary antibody (Amersham, 1:10000) and by chemiluminescence using Roti-Lumin as substrate (Roth, Germany).

### Immunoprecipitations

For the pull down assays the  $\mu\text{MACS}$  epitope tag protein isolation kit was used (Miltenyi Biotec, Bergisch Gladbach, Germany). Roughly 300 mg roots of 10–14 days old seedlings expressing AtVPS2.2-GFP, wildtype (Columbia) or 35S::GFP were harvested, lysed with 1.5 mL lysis buffer (150 mM NaCl, 1% Triton X-100, 50 mM Tris HCl pH 8.0) supplemented with 50  $\mu\text{L}$  Pefablock (0.2 M, Roth, Germany) and incubated on ice for 30 min. After a second addition of 50  $\mu\text{L}$  Pefablock (0.2 M) and 5  $\mu\text{L}$  DTT (1 M) the solution was cleared from cell debris by centrifugation (10 min at 13,000 rpm at 4 °C). 50  $\mu\text{L}$  anti-GFP  $\mu\text{MACS}$  MicroBeads (Miltenyi Biotec, Bergisch Gladbach, Germany) were added to the supernatant, mixed by rotating and incubated for 50 min on ice. Samples were loaded on  $\mu$  Columns and washed five times with 200  $\mu\text{L}$  wash buffer 1 and the last time with 100  $\mu\text{L}$  wash buffer 2 (Miltenyi Biotec, Bergisch Gladbach, Germany). The proteins were eluted with 55  $\mu\text{L}$  elution buffer (Miltenyi Biotec, Bergisch Gladbach, Germany) and 15–20  $\mu\text{L}$  were loaded on a 12% PAGE. Proteins were fixed in 50% MeOH and 5% HAc for 20 min and after washing in distilled water overnight, visualized with a LC–MS/MS compatible silver staining protocol.<sup>44</sup> The gel was sensitized 1 min in 1.2 mM  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ , washed two times 1 min in distilled water and stained for 20 min in 8.8 mM  $\text{AgNO}_3$  and 0.25% formaldehyde. After two 1 min washes with distilled water, the protein bands were developed with 188 mM  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  and 0.04% formaldehyd. Staining was stopped with 5% HAc and stored at 4 °C in 1% HAc.

### Enzymatic Digest, LC–MS/MS and Data Analysis

Silver stained samples were used for the nanoelectrospray LC–MS/MS investigations. Selected gel bands were cut for the investigation of the first pull down; in case of the second and third pull downs, whole lanes of the “sample” and “control” were excised and cut into slices. The bands were washed several times with high quality water (Maxima, Elga, U.K.) to remove salts and detergents from the gel. Proteins were reduced by dithiothreitol (DTT - Roche, Germany) and alkylated by iodoacetamide (Sigma-Aldrich, Germany) without extraction. Trypsin (Roche Diagnostics, Germany - recombinant; proteomics grade) was used as protease, the digest was carried out overnight at 37 °C and was stopped by adding 10% formic acid (Merck, Germany) in water to a final concentration in the aliquot of approximately 1%. The HPLC used was an UltiMate system (Dionex Corporation, Sunnyvale, CA) equipped with a PepMap C18 purification column (300  $\mu\text{m}$  × 5 mm) and a 75  $\mu\text{m}$  × 150 mm analytical column of the same material. 0.1% TFA (Pierce Biotechnology Inc., Rockford, IL) was used on the Switchos module for the binding of the peptides and a linear gradient of acetonitrile (Chromasolv, Sigma-Aldrich, Germany), and 0.1% formic acid in water was used for the elution. The gradient was (mobile phase A: 5% acetonitrile/0.1% formic acid in water; mobile phase B: 80% acetonitrile/0.1% formic acid in water): 0% B for 8 min, 50% B in 60 min, 95% B in 1 min, 100% B for 5 min, 0% B in 1 min, 0% B for 20 min. LC–MS/MS analyses were carried out with an LTQ (Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., Fremont, CA) linear ion trap mass spectrometer. The data acquisition software was XCalibur 2.0.7. (Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., Fremont, CA). The nanospray source of Proxeon (Odense, Denmark) was used with the distal coated silica capillaries of New Objective (Woburn, MA). The electrospray voltage was set to 1500 V. Peptide spectra were recorded over the range of  $m/z$  450–1600, MS/MS spectra were recorded in information dependent data acquisition, the default charge state was set to 3; the mass range for MS/MS measurements was calculated according to the masses of the parent ions. One full spectrum was recorded followed by 4 MS/MS spectra for the most intense ions, automatic gain control was applied and the collision energy was set to the arbitrary value of 35. Helium was used as collision gas. The instrument was operated in data dependent modus; fragmented ions were set onto an exclusion list for 20 s.

MS/MS spectra were interpreted by Mascot 2.2 (Matrix Science Ltd., London, U.K.) and Scaffold 1.0 or Scaffold 2.0 (Proteome Software Inc., Portland, OR). Peptide tolerance was set to  $\pm 2$  Da, MS/MS tolerance was set to  $\pm 0.8$  Da. Carbamidomethylcysteine was set as static, oxidation of methionine residues as variable modification. Number of allowed missed cleavages was set to 2, only fully tryptic peptides were accepted. Raw files acquired from the same lane were merged into one file for the interpretation. Peptide identifications were accepted if they exceeded specific database search engine thresholds. Mascot identifications required at least ion scores greater than both the associated identity scores and 20. X! Tandem identifications required at least  $-\text{Log}(\text{Expect Scores})$  scores of greater than 2.0. Protein identifications were accepted if they contained at least 2 identified peptides. The database used for Mascot search was the nr protein database of NIH (NCBI Resources, NIH, Bethesda, MD), taxonomy was Arabidopsis. The data of the first two pull down assays were analyzed with the nr database version of 16th Jan 2007, the MS/MS data of the



third pull down was searched against the nr database version from 3rd Feb. 2008.

### Yeast Two Hybrid (Y2H) Analyses

Total RNA of roots or cell suspension cultures were used for cDNA synthesis according to Karsai et al.<sup>45</sup> cDNAs were amplified with primers (Supplemental Table S2, Supporting Information) suited for in frame cloning into the Y2H vectors pGADT7 and pGBKT7, inserted into pCR4-TOPO (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA) for sequencing and transferred to the two Y2H vectors. For interaction studies the yeast strain pJ69–4a was cotransformed with the AD and BD vectors by the PEG/LiCl heat shock method<sup>46</sup> and selected on synthetic drop out medium (SD, Clontech, Mountain View, CA) lacking Leu and Trp at 29 °C. Protein–protein interactions were scored by spotting a liquid SD culture of the positive cotransformants on selective media lacking Trp, Leu and His (-L/-T/-H). The strength of interactions was determined by replating the cotransformants on SD/-T/-L/-H medium with increasing concentrations of the histidine analog 3-amino-1,2,4-triazol (3, 8, 15, and 25 mM At, SIGMA-Aldrich, Germany).

### Construction of BiFC Fusion Proteins

Full length cDNAs of SNF7.1 (At4g29160), VPS2.1 (At2g06530), VPS2.2 (At5g44560), VPS46.1 (At1g17730) and VPS60.1 (At3g10640) were PCR amplified with primers suitable for the BD In-Fusion Universal PCR Cloning System (BD BIOSIENCES, France) and recombined into the vectors pUC-SPYNE and pUC-SPYCE.<sup>47</sup> All constructs were confirmed by sequencing. Empty vector combinations were cotransformed as negative controls. Interactions were scored from three independent transformations with the CLSM.

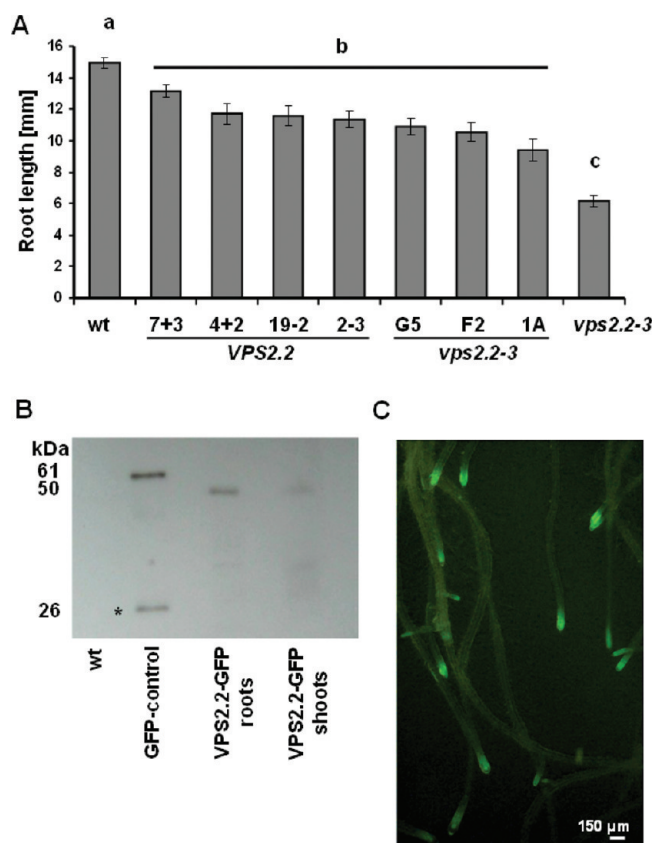
### Classification of AtVPS2.2-GFP-interacting Proteins

The proteins were classified according to their molecular function as determined on the basis of the available literature and of the gene ontology database in TAIR ([www.arabidopsis.org/tools/bulk/go/index.jsp](http://www.arabidopsis.org/tools/bulk/go/index.jsp)). The percentage of proteins in each category was calculated by normalizing the number of proteins in each group to the total number of different proteins identified from the screen. Signal sites for the secretory pathway (SP), GPI-anchoring (GPI) (<http://gpi.unibe.ch/> and [http://mendel.imp.ac.at/sat/gpi/gpi\\_server.html](http://mendel.imp.ac.at/sat/gpi/gpi_server.html)), palmitoylation (<http://csspalm.biocuckoo.org/online.php>), myristoylation (N-Myr) (<http://plantsp.genomics.purdue.edu/plantsp/html/myrist.html> and <http://mendel.imp.ac.at/myristate/SUPLpredictor.htm>) and prenylation (<http://mendel.imp.ac.at/sat/PrePS/index.html>) were investigated. Moreover, searches were done for transmembrane domains (TMD) (<http://www.plantenergy.uwa.edu.au/> and <http://aramemnon.botanik.uni-koeln.de/index.ep>). For comparison with other proteomic analyses the Plant Proteome Database (<http://ppdb.tc.cornell.edu/>) and the VENNY tool<sup>48</sup> (<http://bioinfogp.cnb.csic.es/tools/venny/index.html>) were used.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### The GFP-tagged AtVPS2.2 is Functional

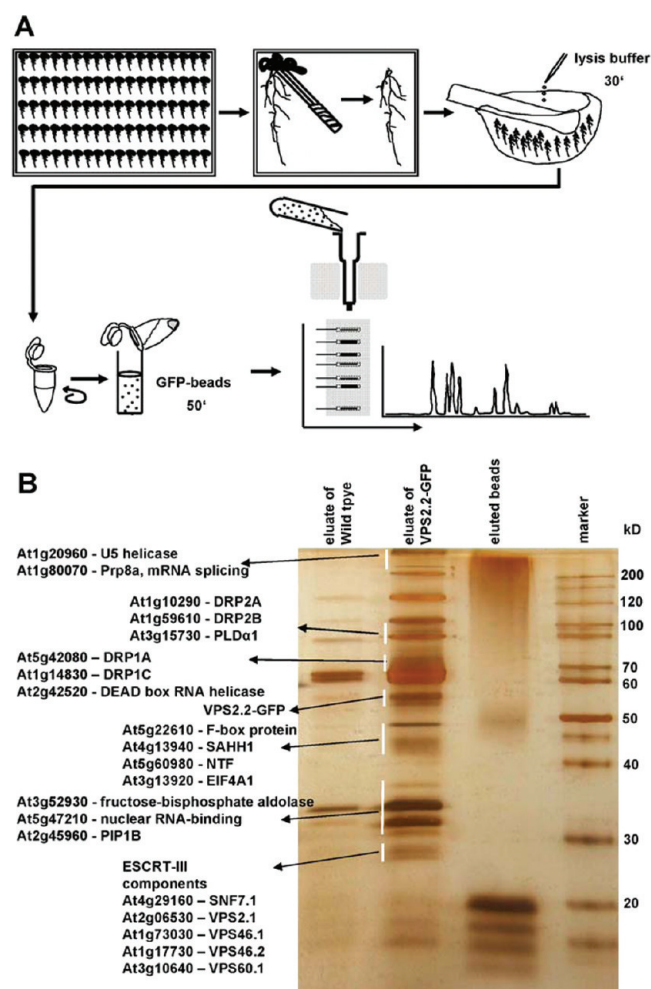
To reveal if and how the ESCRT-III complex is cooperating with other proteins including potential MVB targets we used transgenic Arabidopsis seedlings expressing a C-terminally GFP-tagged AtVPS2.2 (AtVPS2.2-GFP) under the endogenous promoter as bait for immunoprecipitation studies. Even though it



**Figure 1.** AtVPS2.2-GFP complements *vps2.2–3* phenotypes and is predominantly expressed in root meristems. (A) Wildtype and *vps2.2–3* mutants expressing AtVPS2.2-GFP develop significantly longer roots than untransformed *vps2.2–3*, substantiating the functionality of the construct ( $p_{ab} < 4.4 \times 10^{-5}$  for all comparison to *vps2.2–3*). Yet all transformants develop shorter roots than untransformed wildtype seedlings ( $p_{bc} < 0.004$ ). Root lengths were determined of at least 20 seedlings 7 days after germination on MS medium supplemented with 4.5% sucrose. The significance was calculated by students *t*-tests. (B) Stability and prevalent root expression of the AtVPS2.2-GFP fusion protein and the specificity of the GFP-antibody was determined by Western blot analyses loading 75  $\mu$ g total proteins of wildtype root (wt), of seedlings expressing an unstable GFP-fusion protein (GFP-control), roots and shoot extracts of wildtype seedlings expressing AtVPS2.2-GFP. While in the unstable GFP-control extract a degradation product is detectable (star, 26 kDa) the AtVPS2.2-GFP fusions (50 kDa) are stable. (C) Roots of 14 days old seedlings expressing AtVPS2.2-GFP. AtVPS2.2-GFP is predominantly expressed in root meristems.

has been shown that a C-terminal fusion to the human SNF7/CHMP4A was able to be integrated into ESCRT-III filaments,<sup>49</sup> an overexpressed hSNF7.1–GFP fusion inhibits MVB maturation and viral budding<sup>50</sup> and the hSNF7.1-GFP filaments had a tighter appearance.<sup>49</sup> While GFP dimerization was excluded to cause later effect the C-terminal fusion enhanced the interaction.<sup>51</sup>

Therefore the choice for the proteomic approach with an ESCRT-III component was based on the possibility to prove the functionality of the construct. While mutants of *AtVPS2.2* exhibit a strong root growth phenotype<sup>38,52</sup> mutants of *AtVPS2.1* are lethal and the knock out of *AtVPS2.3* has a weak root growth defect.<sup>30</sup> Moreover VPS2 is one of the most conserved



**Figure 2.** Strategy to purify and identify AtVPS2.2-GFP interacting proteins. (A) Roots were separated from seedlings, crushed in liquid nitrogen, lysed with cracking buffer on ice and centrifuged to separate cell debris. Anti-GFP  $\mu$ MACS MicroBeads were added to the supernatant, mixed by rotating and after incubation on ice applied onto  $\mu$  Columns. The eluted proteins were separated on a denaturing 12% (w/v) PAGE and visualized with a LC-MS/MS compatible silver staining protocol. Lanes were excised into up to 29 fractions and subjected to nano-electrospray LC-MS/MS sequencing. (B) Example of a silver stained PAGE showing the eluates from extracts of control roots (wildtype), transgenes expressing AtVPS2.2-GFP and the eluted beads. Indicated are proteins which have been specifically enriched by this method.

ESCRT-III components with up to three copies in the genomes of Metazoa, Fungi, Amoebozoa, Viridiplantae, Phodophyta, Apicomplexa, Ciliates, Stramenopiles, Discicristata and Metamonada.<sup>53</sup> VPS2 is the only ESCRT-III component which has been identified so far by a proteomic approach in plants.<sup>54</sup>

To evaluate the functionality of the AtVPS2.2-GFP construct we first investigated its ability to complement the *vps2.2–3* root growth phenotype. Of seven independent transformants with *vps2.2–3* background three restored root growth to the level of the AtVPS2.2-GFP expressing wildtype plants (Figure 1A). The expression level and stability of the fusion construct in transgenic seedlings was quantified by Western blots (Figure 1B). Finally, the microscopic analyses show that the AtVPS2.2-GFP is visible

primarily in punctuated/vesicular structures of root meristems (Figure 1C, Figure 5B–D,F).

### Immunoprecipitation with AtVPS2.2-GFP Identified New Interactions of ESCRT-III Associated Proteins

Based on the three criteria supporting the functionality of AtVPS2.2-GFP, root extracts of transgenic seedlings were used for three independent IPs followed by LC-MS/MS analysis (Figure 2). To increase the stringency of the analyses root extracts of wildtype and GFP overexpressing seedlings were included as negative controls. In total 89 proteins were isolated (Supplemental Table S1, Supporting Information). Interactors were defined as specific if they were (i), represented by at least two peptides, (ii) were not pulled down with the negative controls or (iii) the peptide coverage was more than 2-fold enriched in comparison to the negative controls. With these stringent criteria 35 interaction partners of AtVPS2.2 were sorted out (Table 1).

Not surprisingly two ESCRT-III components (AtVPS2.1, AtSNF7.1) have been successfully pulled down indicating that the C-terminal GFP-tag did not affect the interaction. Yet three ESCRT-III associated proteins AtVPS46.1, AtVPS46.2 and AtVPS60.1 were identified as interactors which have previously not been described to interact with AtVPS2.2 homologues in other systems. To support our findings of the biochemically identified interactions yeast to hybrid (Y2H) and bifluorescence complementation analyses (BiFC) in Arabidopsis protoplasts were carried out and supported some of these novel interactions (Figure 3, Supplemental Figure 1A, Supporting Information). The results indicate that the composition of ESCRT-III complexes might vary and/or diverse ESCRT-III complexes exist with different composition in plants. ESCRT-III components are encoded in the Arabidopsis genome by at least two and the VPS2 gene family by three genes.<sup>27</sup> Mutant analyses show that AtVPS2.1 is embryo lethal while mutants of AtVPS2.2 and AtVPS2.3 have root growth defects.<sup>30</sup> In contrast to AtVPS2.1, AtVPS2.2 and AtVPS2.3 did not show a Microtubule Interacting and Transport (MIT)-Interacting Motif (MIM)-dependent interaction with the deubiquitinating enzyme AMSH3. Furthermore in contrast to AtVPS2.1, AtVPS2.2 and AtVPS2.3 did not accumulate in class E compartments induced by overexpression of a dominant-negative AtVPS4/AtSKD1.<sup>30</sup>

### AtVPS2.2 Interactors Are Enriched in Membrane Fractions

To elucidate if AtVPS2.2 and its interactors are enriched in specific subcellular compartments, the identified proteins were categorized based on gene ontology annotations (Table 1). Also secondary structure predictions and post-translational modification motifs characteristic for subcellular localizations were used for the classification such as transmembrane domains, signal peptides and myristoylation signatures (Table 1). None of the AtVPS2.2-GFP interactors had signals for GPI-anchors, prenylation or palmitoylation. Only the IBA-response 3 protein contains a myristoylation motif and is annotated as peroxisomal protein.

Although the classical function of the ESCRT-III complex in the biogenesis of MVBs suggests that AtVPS2.2-GFP interactors might be targeted to lytic compartments, only four proteins are annotated to vacuoles. Since these proteins are known to be membrane associated they probably locate at the tonoplast. However, 11 AtVPS2.2 interactors have also been identified in five published proteomic studies of isolated vacuoles

Table 1. AtVPS2.2-GFP Interacting Proteins Identified with the Pull down Screen<sup>a</sup>

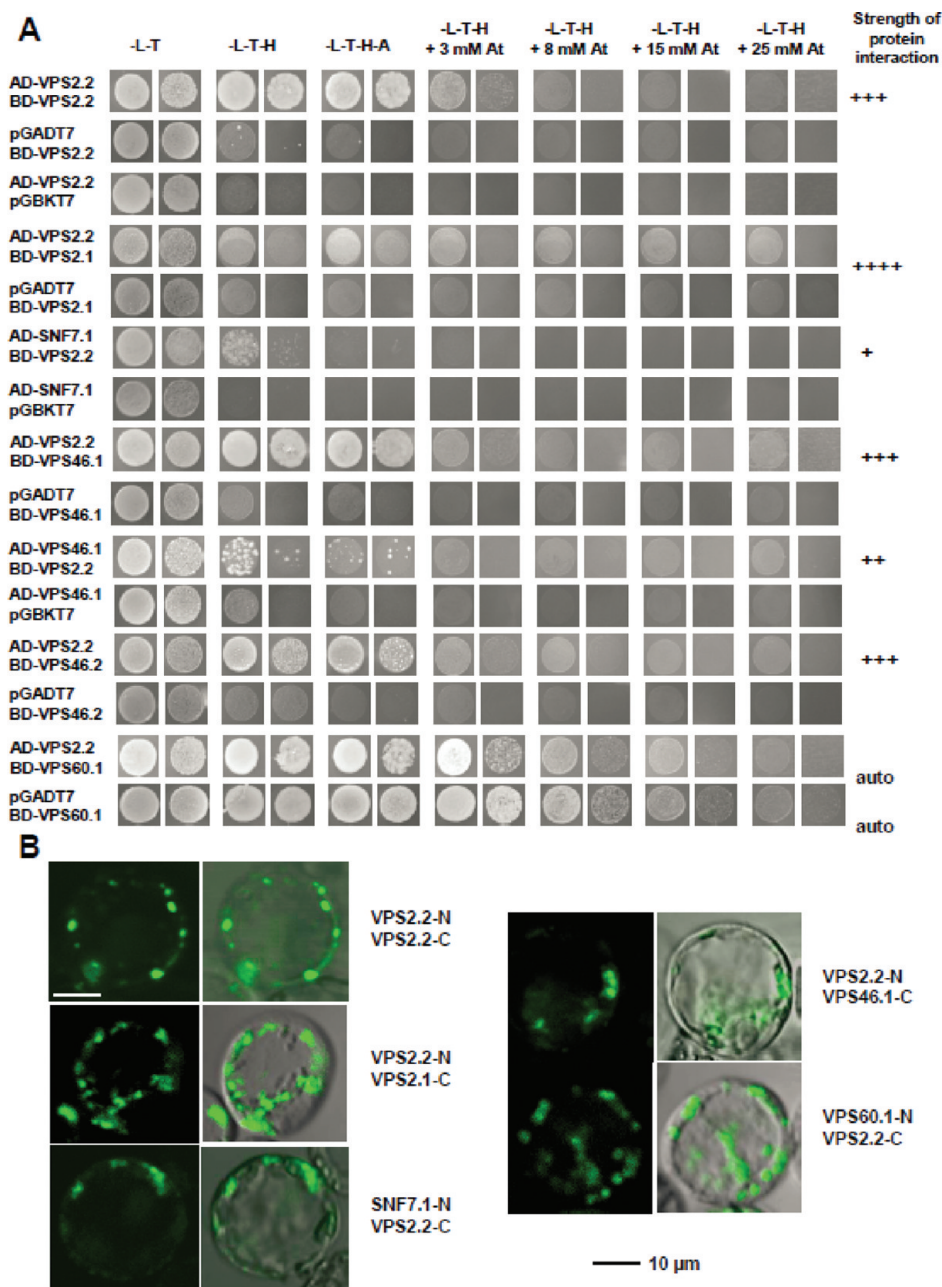
#	AGI code	accession number	description	MW (kD)	first IP			second IP			third IP			occurrence in other proteomic analyses		
					nr. of assigned spectra	sequence coverage (%)	nr. of assigned spectra	sequence coverage (%)	nr. of assigned spectra	sequence coverage (%)	nr. of assigned spectra	sequence coverage (%)	nr. of assigned spectra		sequence coverage (%)	
1	At5g42080	gi 30693985	DRP1A	68	22	29	27	28	28	27	28	33	28	33	cell plate	7
2	At1g59610	gi 15218837	DRP2B	100	0	0	59	34	16	16	34	13	16	34	plasma membrane	5
3	At1g14830	gi 21537304	DRP1C	69	12	21	19	27	15	19	27	20	15	27	cell plate, plasma membrane, vacuole	4
4	At1g10290	gi 110737889	DRP2A	99	0	0	26	16	7	26	16	6.8	7	16	plasma membrane, vacuole	6
5	At1g73030	gi 18410249	VPS46.2/AtCHMP1A	23	14	30	11	26	3	11	26	13	3	26	ESCRT-III	0
6	At5g44560	gi 15241525	VPS2.2/HYA	24	5	19	16	31	6	16	31	20	6	31	ESCRT-III	0
7	At5g02500	gi 15241849 (+1)	HSC70-1 (heat shock cognate protein 70-1)	71	0	0	9	11	10	9	11	12	10	11	cytosol *	22
8	At3g15730	gi 15232671, gi 1297302, gi 11994345	PLD1ALPHA1 (Phospholipase D alpha 1)	92	0	0	4	3.8	10	4	3.8	12	10	3.8	plasma membrane	8
9	At5g22610	gi 22326994 (+1)	F-box family protein	54	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	2	11	0	unknown	0
10	At4g05320	gi 28436485 (+35)	UBQ10 (Polyubiquitin 10)	28	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	14	8	0	cytosol	2
11	At4g31700	gi 15236042	RPS6 (40S Ribosomal protein S6)	28	0	0	4	20	3	4	20	11	3	20	ribosome *	9
12	At1g14320	gi 30683726	RPL10, SAC52 (Suppressor of Acaulis 52), ribosomal protein L10	25	0	0	7	24	0	7	24	0	0	24	ribosome *	9
13	At3g61760	gi 30695480	DRP1B	68	0	0	6	7	0	6	7	0	0	7	cell plate, plasma membrane, vacuole	0
14	At3g60190	gi 18411520 (+1)	DRP1E	70	0	0	4	6.4	2	4	6.4	3.5	2	6.4	plasma membrane, cell plate	7
15	At1g17730	gi 15220819 (+1)	VPS46.1/AtCHMP1B	23	4	17	2	12	0	2	12	0	0	12	ESCRT-III	0
16	At2g06530	gi 18396352 (+11)	VPS2.1	25	3	7.1	0	0	2	0	0	7.1	2	0	ESCRT-III	1
17	At3g52930	gi 15231715	fructose-bisphosphate aldolase, putative	39	0	0	3	7.3	2	3	7.3	7.3	2	7.3	mitochondrion *	22
18	At1g20960	gi 15218086	EMB1507 (Embryo defective 1507) U5 small nuclear ribonucleoprotein helicase	247	0	0	4	2.3	0	4	2.3	0	0	2.3	nucleus *	2
19	At5g27850	gi 15241061	RPL18C (60S ribosomal protein L18)	21	0	0	4	12	0	4	12	0	0	12	ribosome	5

Table 1. Continued

#	AGI code	accession number	description	MW (kD)	first IP			second IP			third IP			occurrence in other proteomic analyses		
					nr. of assigned spectra	sequence coverage (%)	nr. of assigned spectra	sequence coverage (%)	nr. of assigned spectra	sequence coverage (%)	nr. of assigned spectra	sequence coverage (%)	nr. of assigned spectra		sequence coverage (%)	
20	At4g29160	gi 15233464 (+2)	SNF7.1	24	0	0	0	0	0	4	16	—	—	—	ESCRT-III	0
21	At1g80070	gi 15220049 (+1)	SUS2 (abnormal susceptor 2), AtPrp8a, Pre-mRNA Splicing	278	0	0	3	1.4	0	0	0	—	—	—	nucleus	2
22	At1g16030	gi 15219109	HSP70B (Heat shock protein 70B)	71	0	0	0	0	3	3	4.3	—	—	—	cytosol	7
23	At2g18960	gi 15224264 (+1)	AHA1 ( <i>Arabidopsis</i> H+ ATPase 1)	104	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	° +	—	—	plasma membrane, vacuole	13
24	At2g42520	gi 15227951 (+1)	DEAD box RNA helicase, putative	68	2	3.3	7	7.3	0	0	0	—	—	—	peroxisome	3
25	At4g13940	gi 15236376 (+6)	SAHH1 (S-adenosyl-L-homocysteine hydrolase), HOG1	53	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	—	—	—	plasma membrane, vacuole	20
26	At3g06810	gi 110739702 (+2)	IBR3 (IBA-response 3)	92	0	0	0	0	0	2	3.5	—	—	—	peroxisome	1
27	At5g59870	gi 15238549	HTA6 (histone H2A protein)	16	0	0	0	0	2	2	6	—	—	—	nucleus *	2
28	At5g60980	gi 30697452 (+1)	nuclear transport factor 2 (NTF2) family protein/RNA recognition motif (RRM)-containing protein	49	0	0	2	5	0	0	0	—	—	—	nucleus	0
29	At5g47210	gi 145334757 (+2)	nuclear RNA-binding protein, putative	32	0	0	2	9	0	0	0	—	—	—	nucleus	3
30	At3g63460	gi 30695804 (+2)	WD-40 repeat family protein	120	0	0	2	1.9	0	0	0	—	—	—	cell wall	2
31	At3g13920	gi 21555870	EIF4A1 (Eukaryotic translation initiation factor 4A1)	47	0	0	0	0	2	2	5.8	—	—	—	cytosol *	14
32	At2g23350	gi 15227815 (+1)	PAB4 (Poly(A) binding protein 4)	72	0	0	2	3.6	0	0	0	—	—	—	nucleus	5
33	At2g20580	gi 18399399	ATRPN1A (26S Proteasome regulatory subunit S2.1A)	98	0	0	2	2.8	0	0	0	—	—	—	nucleus	3
34	At3g10640	gi 12322781 (+1)	VPS60.1	25	0	0	2	5	0	0	0	—	—	—	ESCRT-III	0
35	At2g45960	gi 145331417	PIP1B (plasma membrane intrinsic protein 1;2)	32	0	0	2	6.3	0	0	0	+	—	—	plasma membrane	8
			* found in the nucleus of other proteomic analyses									2	0	0	1	
			° found in membrane fractions													

<sup>a</sup> Proteins are sorted by abundance of identified peptides. Annotation to cellular compartments and the occurrence in other proteomic analyses are indicated. MW, molecular weight; IP, immunoprecipitation; TMD, transmembrane domain; SP, signal peptide; GPI, GPI anchor; N-Myr, myristoylation site.





**Figure 3.** *In vivo* interaction studies of AtVPS2.2 with known and novel interacting partners of the ESCRT-III complex. (A) Yeast two hybrid analyses showing growth assays for homo- and heterodimerization and the autoactivation of the AtVPS60.1 DNA-binding domain fusion. The identity of the cotransformants is indicated on the left, the selective media above and the strength of the interactions on the right. Shown are spotted undiluted and 1:10 diluted cultures. (B) BiFC interactions in Arabidopsis protoplasts demonstrating homo- and heterodimerizations of AtVPS2.2 with AtVPS2.1, AtSNF7.1, AtVPS46.1 and AtVPS60.1. The interactions label vesicles in the cytoplasm and at the plasma membrane.

(Figure 4).<sup>55–57</sup> None of these are classical luminal vacuolar proteins.

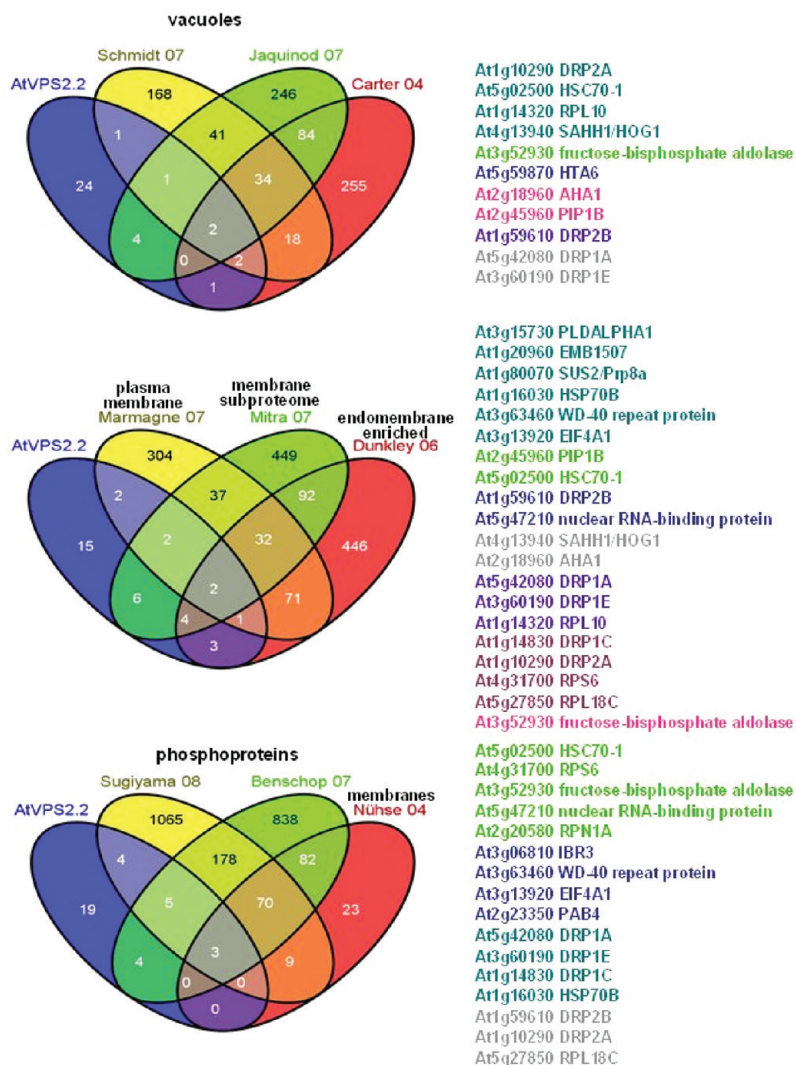
According to the gene ontology annotation eight interactors out of the 35 proteins (23%) are assigned to the plasma membrane/cell plate and/or tonoplast (Table 1). They include a member of the water channel protein family, AtPIP1B, and the H<sup>+</sup> ATPase 1, AtAHA1. Comparison to published proteomic studies revealed that 20 (57%) interactors have been previously isolated in membrane fractions (Figure 4).<sup>58–60</sup> Half of them were identified also in phosphoproteomes.<sup>61–63</sup>

Apart from the two integral membrane proteins which might be substrates of the ESCRT machinery, six dynamin-related

proteins (DRP1A, DRP1B, DRP1C, DRP1E, DRP2A, DRP2B) and PLD $\alpha$ 1 were pulled down (Table 1). PLDs interact and stimulate dynamin GTP-activity<sup>64</sup> but interactions of ESCRT-III components with both PLDs and dynamins have not been shown yet.

In eukaryotic cells PLDs functions include but are not limited to the endocytic and exocytic pathways where they for example are involved in the generation and fusion of secretory vesicles.<sup>65–67</sup> In mammalian cells PLDs could be found at sites of the plasma membrane where exocytosis occurs.<sup>68–70</sup> PLDs facilitate the bending of membranes due to the cone-shaped geometry of their hydrolysis product phosphatidic acid (PA)





**Figure 4.** Subcellular localization of AtVPS2.2 interacting proteins. Venn diagrams of the overlap between AtVPS2.2-GFP interactors and (phosphor-) proteins that have been isolated from membranes and vacuoles. The colored AGI codes of the proteins correspond to the overlapping sectors. The first authors of the publications used for comparison are also color coded.

which induces a negative curvature.<sup>71,72</sup> Furthermore, the PLD products, phosphatidylserine and PAs, create an acidic environment at the cytoplasmic leaflet of the plasma membrane<sup>73,74</sup> where the basic surface of ESCRT-III subunits and associated proteins can electrostatically bind. Whitley et al.<sup>75</sup> identified a specific lysine (K49) on human CHMP3/VPS24 that binds phosphatidylinositol 1 (3,5)-bisphosphate (PtdIns(3,5)P2) and which is highly conserved in all SNF7-domain containing ESCRT-III subunits and associated proteins.<sup>27</sup> Thus it is likely that PLD modified membranes are attracting ESCRT-III subunits.

AtPLD $\alpha$ 1 is a plant-specific PLD with a polybasic PtdIns-(4,5)P2-binding motif, a G-protein interacting motif and a C2 domain which mediates Ca<sup>2+</sup>-dependent phospholipid-association. AtPLD $\alpha$ 1 is present on intercellular membranes and translocates between membranes and the cytosol in response to stress.<sup>76</sup> AtPLD $\alpha$ 1 binds in the same manner as dynamin to PtdIns(4,5)-bisphosphate and it is likely that both are recruited to the same membrane domains.

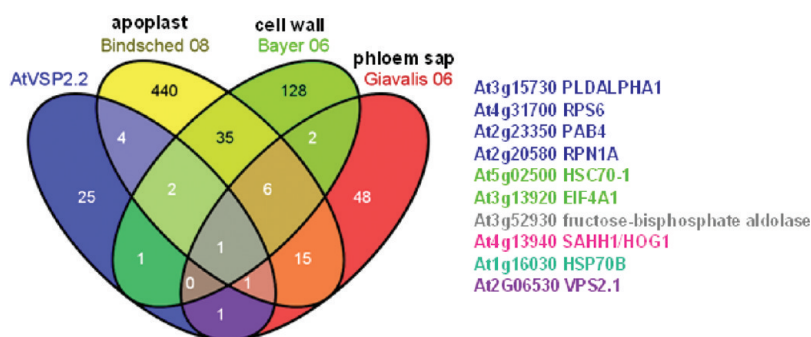
Dynamin oligomers have been visualized with electron microscopy on necks of endocytotic vesicles. The classical view of

dynamin mediated membrane fission is that upon narrowing and stretching dynamin oligomers membranes lose their stability and abscission occurs. Recently it has been shown that long dynamin oligomers are not necessary for membrane fission and it is postulated that limited dynamin assembly rearrange local lipids in such a way that nonleaky fission events can occur.<sup>77</sup> Therefore it is possible that dynamins support ESCRT-III mediated membrane narrowing and lipid rearrangements at the neck (Figure 7). We cannot exclude that the interaction of an ESCRT-III subunit with dynamins is only restricted to the plant specific member of the VPS2 protein family.<sup>27</sup>

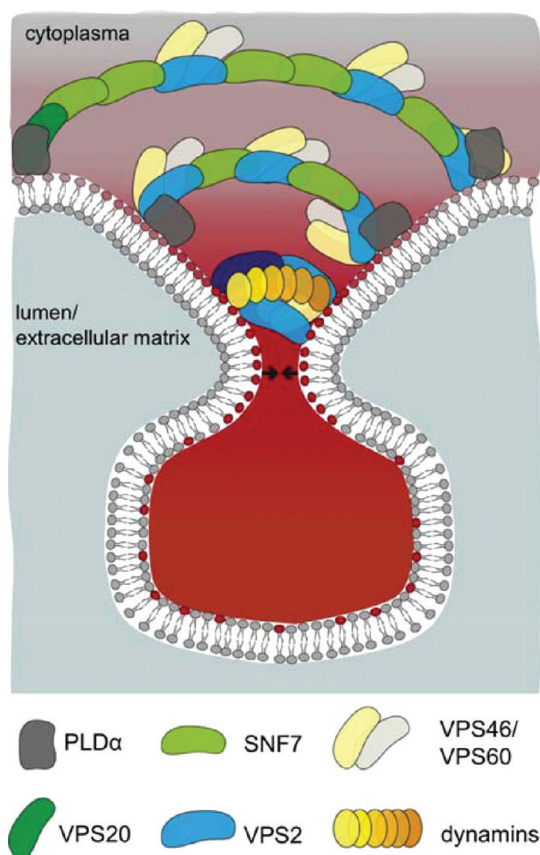
#### AtVPS2.2-GFP Localizes in the Nucleus and Crosstalk Might Exist with Regulators of Gene Expression and RNA Maturation and Processing

An unexpected high fraction of seven AtVPS2.2 interactors are annotated to the nucleus and five more have been isolated in proteome studies of isolated nuclei (Figure 5).<sup>78,79</sup> Although AtVPS2.2-GFP localizes primarily to vesicles of different sizes and at distinct domains of the plasma membrane (Figure 5B–D, F, Supplemental Figure S1B, Supporting Information), weak





**Figure 6.** Atypical subcellular localization of AtVSP2.2 interacting proteins. Venn diagrams of the overlap between AtVSP2.2-GFP interactors and proteins that have been isolated from and annotated to the apoplast, cell wall and phloem sap. The colored AGI codes of the proteins correspond to the overlapping sectors. The first authors of the publications used for comparison are also color coded.



**Figure 7.** Model how ESCRT-III might mediate vesicle budding and fission in conjunction with dynamins and PLD $\alpha$ . Several dynamins assemble and interact with the ESCRT-III subunit AtVSP2.2 on membrane domains on the inner side of the neck which is acidified by PLD $\alpha$ . This association supports membrane narrowing and lipid rearrangements at the neck of budding vesicles away from the cytoplasm so that membrane fission and fusion occurs. Since AtVSP2.2-GFP interacts also with other ESCRT-III components we propose that at least in plants the large membrane scaffolding complex consists of a mixture of AtSNF7, AtVPS2 and the associated AtVPS46 and AtVPS60 proteins. Dark green, AtVPS20; middle green, AtSNF7; blue, AtVPS2; dark blue, AtVPS24; light yellow, AtVPS46; light gray, AtVPS60; dark gray, PLD $\alpha$ ; yellow to orange, dynamins; gray, neutral lipids; red, acidified lipids. Arrows indicate the forces that upon constriction of ESCRT-III and dynamins mediate membrane fission and fusion.

CHMP2/BC-2 induces condensed chromatin regions where a PcG complex protein, a predominantly plasma membrane localized small Ras family GTPase, Rac1, and the phosphorylated histone 3 are recruited.<sup>81</sup> Based on these findings and similar to CHMP1, AtVSP2.2 probably participates also in nuclear events as well.

#### AtVSP2.2-GFP Interacts with Extracellular Proteins

Ten of the AtVSP2.2-GFP interactors have also been isolated in proteome studies aimed to enrich for extracellular proteins of the cell wall, the apoplast and the phloem sap (Figure 6).<sup>54,82,83</sup> None of these extracellular AtVSP2.2-GFP interactors belong to classical secretory proteins. However ESCRT proteins have been recently identified in the proteome of secreted vesicles of archaeal *Sulfolobus* species.<sup>16</sup> One explanation is that the mechanism of budding of vesicles in archaea is similar to the release of exosomes and viruses. In both events the ESCRT machinery is involved.<sup>84</sup> Exosomes are well studied in mammals and function in cell–cell communication.<sup>85</sup> Even mRNA and miRNA (referred to as exosomal shuttle RNA or esRNA) are transported via exosomes between cells.<sup>86,87</sup> The exocarta database (<http://exocarta.ludwig.edu.au>,<sup>88</sup>) which includes 75 studies on exosome proteomes revealed that apart from the classical exosomal markers related to the ESCRT machinery, TSG101/VPS23 and ALIX also the ESCRT-I components VPS23; VPS28; VPS37A, B, C, D; the ESCRT-II components VPS22, VPS25, VPS36 and the ESCRT-III core and associated proteins CHMP6/VPS20, CHMP2A and B, CHMP3/VPS24, CHMP5/VPS60 and CHMP1A and B and VPS4A and B and VTA1 have been isolated from exosomes. Interestingly all of the other noncanonically secreted proteins of our proteome analyses such as PLD $\alpha$ 1, a proteasome subunit (RPN1A/PSMD2), a fructose-bisphosphate aldolase, an S-adenosyl-L-homocysteine hydrolase (SAHH1/HOG1), heat shock proteins (HSC70–1, HSP70B) and RNA binding proteins (eIF4A1, RPS6) are also present in the exocarta database.

In plants secreted ESCRT-III components and interactors have been identified in the apoplastic fluid<sup>89</sup> and the phloem sap.<sup>54</sup> On the microscopic level paramural vesicles share some characteristics with MVBs and exosomes.<sup>90</sup> Such paramural vesicles have recently been detected at fungal penetration sites and during plugging of plasmodesmata between hypersensitive cells and intact neighboring cells.<sup>91,91</sup> However, further studies are needed for a conclusive demonstration of the involvement of an ESCRT-mediated secretion in plants.



## Working Model for the Involvement of AtVPS2.2 Interactors in Membrane Bending and Scission

Vesicle-mediated transport in the secretory and endocytic pathways involves the assembly of coat protein complexes on the cytoplasmic face of a lipid bilayer.<sup>92</sup> The ESCRT machinery might function similarly by recruiting and concentrating membrane proteins into microdomains of vesicle buds that are sequestered away from the cytoplasm. While ESCRT-I and II induces initial membrane buds, ESCRT-III subunits form large membrane scaffolding protein complexes of filamentous and spiral appearance which push membranes away from the cytoplasm creating tubes with dome-like caps at the neck.<sup>49,93</sup> The order and ratio of ESCRT-III subunits is only loosely defined and starts with the myristoylated and membrane inserted VPS20 subunit. Continuous self-assembly of ESCRT-III subunits SNF7, VPS24 and VPS2 inside the tube and neck stabilizes and narrows the membranes and ultimately leads to membrane scission.<sup>94</sup>

In this study, we have identified and established novel partners of the ESCRT-III component AtVPS2.2-GFP, in particular dynamins and PLD $\alpha$ 1 which might assist in pinching off vesicular packages from membranes to deliver cargoes to other subcellular or even extracellular compartments.

Similar to ESCRT-subunits, dynamins assemble on membrane surfaces and are able to scaffold membranes into cylinders.<sup>77,95,96</sup> It is known that dynamins bind the cytoplasmic side of the neck upon endocytosis. Endocytosis is a budding process into the cytoplasm and reverse to the process mediated by the ESCRT-III machinery which buds away from the cytoplasm. Nevertheless, we find that dynamins are interacting with the ESCRT-III subunit VPS2.2. Therefore we propose that ESCRT-III and dynamins assemble together on membrane domains that have been modified by AtPLD $\alpha$ 1 thereby supporting membrane narrowing and lipid rearrangements at the neck of budding vesicles away from the cytoplasm. It is possible that dynamins bind to the inner side of the ESCRT machinery induced neck which is acidified by PLD $\alpha$  and therefore serves as landing platform for the basic surface of ESCRT-III subunits. This membrane association might support membrane narrowing and lipid rearrangements at the neck of budding vesicles away from the cytoplasm so that membrane fission and fusion occurs. Since AtVPS2.2-GFP interacts also with other ESCRT-III components we propose that at least in plants the large membrane scaffolding complex consists of a mixture of SNF7, VPS2 and the associated VPS46 and VPS60 proteins.

## CONCLUSIONS

The present study is the first *in vivo* proteome approach to identify ESCRT-III interactors. The analysis of the immunoprecipitated proteins from root extracts of Arabidopsis plants expressing a functional AtVPS2.2-GFP fusion and the additional protein–protein interaction studies are consistent with a role for AtVPS2.2 in ESCRT-III complexes. Both microscopic studies and interactors annotated to and identified in the nucleus and the extracellular spaces indicate that AtVPS2.2 might be involved in processes beyond the classical roles of the ESCRT machinery. However, further experiments are necessary to confirm this hypothesis. The overrepresentation of dynamins and the copurification of a PLD $\alpha$  is an intriguing starting point for the characterization of proteins that may associate with the ESCRT-III machinery on membranes. These results provide the basis for

future studies on the mechanism and functional significance of the interaction between the ESCRT-III subunit AtVPS2.2 and its identified partners in plants.

## ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### Supporting Information

Supplemental Figure S1, Single scans through protoplasts transformed with either empty BiFC vectors as negative controls or with AtVPS2.2-GFP and stained with the membrane selective dye FM4–64.

Supplemental Table S1, AtVPS2.2-GFP interacting proteins identified in three independent pull down screens. Proteins are sorted by abundance of identified peptides. Indicated are the AGI and accession numbers, molecular weight, number of unique peptides, number of assigned peptides and sequence coverage.

Supplemental Table S2, Overview of the primer pairs used for cloning of the AtVPS2.2-GFP construct and the Y2H and BiFC interaction analyses. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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