Glutathione accelerates the cell cycle and cellular reprogramming in plant regeneration

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Summary

The plasticity of plant cells underlies their wide capacity to regenerate, with increasing evidence in plants and animals implicating cell cycle dynamics in cellular reprogramming. To investigate the cell cycle during cellular reprogramming, we developed a comprehensive set of cell cycle phase markers in the Arabidopsis root. Using single-cell RNA-seq profiles and live imaging during regeneration, we found that a subset of cells near an ablation injury dramatically increases division rate by truncating G1. Cells in G1 undergo a transient nuclear peak of glutathione (GSH) prior to coordinated entry into S phase followed by rapid divisions and cellular reprogramming. A symplastic block of the ground tissue impairs regeneration, which is rescued by exogenous GSH. We propose a model in which GSH from the outer tissues is released upon injury licensing an exit from G1 near the wound to induce rapid cell division and reprogramming.

Introduction

Plants have a remarkable capacity to regenerate, where even a single somatic cell can give rise to an entire organism[1]. The *Arabidopsis* root apical meristem (RAM) provides a model for regeneration in plants because the organ can regenerate from differentiated cells after removal of the stem niche without exogenous hormones[2]. This process requires the coordination of both cell division and cell identity changes among the cells that will give rise to the new, regenerated tissue. How cell division properties are coordinated with cell fate change in regeneration remains an open question.

Prior work in plants has demonstrated links between cell cycle regulation and cell fate specification. In the *Arabidopsis* sepal, giant cells are specified when *MERISTEM LAYER 1* (*ML1*) expression exceeds a threshold level during G2/M phase of the cell cycle[3]. Recent work has shown that high protein levels of the cell fate regulators SHORT ROOT (SHR) and SCARECROW (SCR) at a specific phase of the cell cycle determine the polarity of a formative division in the root[4]. In the stomatal lineage, asymmetric and symmetric cell divisions are mediated by the expression of a series of master regulator basic helix-loop-helix (bHLH) transcription factors that concomitantly regulate cell identity (reviewed in[5]).

After specification, cell cycle length frequently changes as cells undergo differentiation. For example, in the root meristem, cell division rates speed up along the maturation gradient as they move away from the stem cell niche during transit amplification[6], largely due to a shortening of G1 duration as a cell is displaced shootward away from the quiescent center (QC) [7]. Alternatively, in the stomatal lineage, G1 duration increases and cell cycles lengthen as cells commit to terminal differentiation[8]. These observations suggest that even the trends of cell cycle length dynamics during differentiation can differ from tissue to tissue.

Different specialized plant cells can also show differences in their core cell cycle machinery. While many core cell cycle regulators are conserved between plants and animals[9,10], the expansion of core cell cycle gene families in plants, such as the D type cyclins, has allowed for cellular specialization[11]. For instance, *CYCLIN D-6* (*CYCD6*) is specifically expressed downstream of the SHR-SCR module and mediates the switch in division orientation that leads to the formation of a new cell type[12]. *CYCLIN D-7* (*CYCD7*) expression is restricted to the guard mother cell in the stomatal lineage and regulates a switch from asymmetric to symmetric divisions[13]. This process is also regulated by another specialized cyclin, *CYCLIN D-5* (*CYCD5*)[14].

These examples suggest that cell type-specific regulation of the cell cycle in plants could be a more general phenomenon, but one challenge facing the field has been studying the cell cycle in a way that maintains the developmental context of cells. Early transcriptional studies of the cell cycle in *Arabidopsis* employed synchronization of cultured cells[15,16], which provided valuable insight, but such bulk, *in vitro* analysis could not provide cell type-specific information.

Single-cell RNA-seq (scRNA-seq) studies provide an opportunity to analyze cell-type specific properties of the cell cycle, but, outside of G2/M, the ability to map cells to a cell cycle phase is limited. For example, the field lacks a reliable transcriptional marker for the G1 phase of the cell cycle, although CDT1a is a well-supported translational marker[17,18]. Overall, we have an incomplete view of the extent of cell cycle variation among cells and the transcriptional signatures that distinguish the different ways the cell cycle varies in specific cell types. An extensive set of markers for each cycle phase would add insight into the analysis of cell cycle attributes in the burgeoning collection scRNA-seq studies in plants.

In the context of regeneration, cell division is required for complete repair of injured tissues[2]. There is considerable evidence in animals that events during the G1 phase of the cell cycle are critical for cell fate establishment[19–21], and short G1 phases are a known feature of totipotent animal stem cells[22]. In plants, division rates can vary dramatically in different contexts. For example, cell divisions in the transit amplifying zone of the root in one study were shown to have a median duration of 21.5 hours[6]. However, other studies showed that cells divide approximately every 7 hours in Arabidopsis embryos up until the 16 cell stage[23], and

in lateral root primordia cell doubling time has been estimated to be as short as 3.7 hours[24]. It is not known in
plants if rapid divisions facilitate organ formation or cell fate specification in any of these contexts, including
regeneration.

Both plants and animals can vary division rates by controlling the passage through G1 and G2 checkpoints,
which are often regulated by metabolites[9,25]. For example, it was recently shown that tricarboxylic acid cycle
metabolites may regulate root growth and development[26]. In addition, reactive oxygen species (ROS) have a
role in controlling division rates along the root axis[27]. The tripeptide glutathione (GSH) – the primary antioxidant
in the cell[28] – is enriched in the nucleus in division-competent cells in both plants and animals with the
hypothesized function of protecting newly synthesized DNA from ROS-induced damage (reviewed in[29]).

GSH availability[30,31] and ROS patterning[32] in plants have previously been linked to root growth and cell cycle
regulation[30,32,33]. Prior studies have shown that GSH may be necessary for plant cells to pass the G1 to S
transition[30] and nuclear ROS levels change cyclically in cell cycle-synchronized root tips[34]. Finally, evidence
from Arabidopsis tissue culture suggests that GSH is transported into the nucleus in a cell cycle-dependent
manner with consequences for the redox state of both the nucleus and the cytoplasm[33]. Injury, such as RAM
excision, results in accumulation of ROS that presumably need to be neutralized by antioxidants[35]. While both
GSH availability and cell cycle regulation are linked to cellular reprogramming following injury, how these
factors are coordinated during regeneration, if at all, remains an open question.

Here we generate transcriptomic profiles of the cell cycle in the RAM while maintaining developmental context.
We synchronize cells in the intact RAM[36] followed by scRNA-seq to generate phase-enriched profiles for the
G1, S, and G2/M phases of the cell cycle. We corroborate these transcriptional profiles with phase-specific
bulk RNA-seq profiles and *in situ* hybridizations to yield a high-confidence set of cell cycle markers. In
conjunction with scRNA-seq profiles, we used the markers to analyze the transcriptional composition of each
phase of the cell cycle both broadly and among specific cell types. Collective analysis of these datasets
reveals 1) many individual cell types have distinct cell cycle dynamics at the transcriptional level and 2) the G1
phase of the cell cycle is uniquely tuned to respond to redox stress. During regeneration, we used both single-
cell analysis and live imaging to show a dramatic shortening of the G1 phase of the cell cycle in cells near the
injury. Furthermore, cells with a short G1 phase reprogram to new cell fates more rapidly than neighboring
cells that maintain a longer G1. We demonstrate that GSH mediates both the rapid exit from G1 and fast
divisions that preferentially lead to cellular reprogramming. Finally, the results showed that the middle and
outer cell types appear to be a major source of GSH in the root that facilitates growth and regeneration.
Overall, we show that GSH acts as a signal in regeneration where, upon wounding, GSH enters the nucleus,
prompting a rapid exit from G1, a fast cell cycle, and cell-fate reprogramming.

Results

Phase-enriched scRNA-seq libraries reveal a large set of cell cycle-regulated genes

To gain a deeper view of cell cycle dynamics in specific cell types, we sought to characterize cell cycle
transcriptomes in intact Arabidopsis roots while maintaining developmental context. To that end, we
synchronized cells *in vivo*[36] and used scRNA-seq to obtain phase-enriched populations in which cell type-
specific information is maintained (Figures 1A and 1B, Figures S1-S2). We normalized the cell type
composition for the phase-enriched libraries so that each library contained the same representation of cell
types in order to prevent any one cell type from contributing an excess of markers to the final set (Figure S3).
We then performed a differential expression analysis as implemented in Seurat[37], using the enriched library as
the grouping variable and asking for only positive markers that passed a p-value threshold of < 0.01 between
the phase-enriched profiles. We ranked the phase markers based on the proportion of cells in which they were
expressed in the target versus non-target library to further ensure the selection of cell cycle markers common
to all cell types (Table S1). For example, a gene shown to be upregulated in the G1-enriched library was

ranked more highly if it was also expressed in a higher proportion of cells in the same G1-enriched library. This
approach identified gold standard cell cycle markers in their appropriate phase (Figure 1C, Table S2).

To corroborate the markers and account for the potential effects of synchronization, we also generated bulk
RNA-seq libraries from root cells sorted by ploidy as a proxy for cell cycle phase[38]. The resulting dataset was
analyzed by K-means clustering to reveal the expression patterns of highly variable genes among cell cycle
phases. We then analyzed the overlap in cell cycle phase markers between the synchronized single scRNA-
seq and bulk RNA-seq profiles (Figure S4). These two approaches overwhelmingly assigned genes to the
same phase of the cell cycle (Figure S4).

To corroborate markers for the G1 and S phase, we used the stringent top-50 marker set to assign our
synchronized cells to phases in Seurat[39] and examined the expression of genes with functional roles in the cell
cycle (Figure 1D). With these phase assignments, the origin recognition complex (ORC) family appears to be
expressed more highly in G1, while minichromosome maintenance complex (MCM) genes peak in S. This is
consistent with the observation that ORCs are required in the pre-replication complex prior to MCMs (reviewed
in[40]) and supports that this set of phase markers provides a sensitive discrimination between G1 and S phase.

To validate these markers *in vivo*, we visualized transcripts directly using multicolor *in situ* hybridization (Figure
1E, Figures S3C and S3D). This allowed us to simultaneously visualize a known phase marker in the same
plant as a novel probe. Novel markers were selected for *in situ* experiments based on their high expression
level and specificity. We observed a novel G2/M marker - AT4G23800 - co-staining with a probe for the well-
known G2/M marker CYCB1;1. We observed that both markers overlap in most cells. Additionally, both
markers are present in cells with mitotic figures, as visualized by DAPI, further confirming the novel marker is
expressed in cells in G2/M phase.

To validate a novel G1 probe, we co-stained a new, putative G1 marker - AT5G21940 - with a well-established
S phase marker - AT5G10390 (H3.1)[41], since there are no other documented G1 transcriptional markers. In
this case, we tested whether the two markers were anticorrelated with one another and excluded from mitotic
figures. As predicted, we found the transcripts of these two genes were both anticorrelated and absent from
mitotic figures, with occasional overlap (Figure 1E; Figures S3C and S3D). Thus, the marker set provides a
highly sensitive tool for cell cycle analysis in single cell studies and, importantly, a method to distinguish cells in
the G1 phase, allowing new analysis of the role of G1 in plants.

The analysis showed that markers for G1 and S phases had expression patterns that were enriched in but not
strictly exclusive to their respective phase. For example, S-phase markers, while most highly expressed in that
phase, often had low levels of expression in G1 and vice versa. While G2/M is transcriptionally distinct, G1 and
S have more continuous expression patterns. However, the full set of markers for each phase, including G1,
could robustly assign root cells to a specific phase in scRNA-seq datasets.

The large, high-confidence set of markers allowed us to analyze functional categories in each phase,
particularly G1, which has not been deeply characterized. First, as expected, gene ontology (GO) enrichment
analysis revealed that cell cycle-related terms were enriched in G2/M using the top 50 marker set and then
enriched in G2/M and S phases using the top 200 markers (Figure 1F, Table S3). We found that canonical cell
cycle markers are lowly expressed so the most robust markers did not include cyclins (Figure S5). Notably,
many markers were enriched in, but not necessarily specific to, any given cell cycle phase, showing that,
beyond the distinct transcriptome of G2/M, other phases had less discrete transitions at the transcriptional
level.

Interestingly, the top 50 G1 markers were enriched for GO terms related to stress responses (Figure 1F) and
closer inspection of a larger marker set showed these terms were specifically related to oxidative stress (Table
S3). This enrichment of ontology terms in G1 cells was also present in the G1 ploidy sorted dataset, where
cells from all phases were collected from the same pool of cells, ruling out a batch effect (Table S3). This
suggests a role for oxidative stress management within G1—an intriguing feature that we pursued below in the

analysis of the cell cycle in regeneration. Overall, the dataset now provides a robust tool to analyze the cell
cycle in single-cell profiles and identifies new genes with potential roles in specific phases of the cell cycle.

Pseudotime analysis reveals cell cycle variation within and between cell types

We sought to generate a fine-grained analysis of cell type-specific cell cycle patterns in the Arabidopsis root.
Using a scRNA-seq profile of all cells in the root meristem[42], cells were aligned in a pseudotime trajectory with
Monocle3[43] using only the top 150 cell cycle markers and visualizing them in Uniform Manifold Approximation
and Projection (UMAP[44], Figure 2A). The trajectories are anchored in G2/M and proceed to G1 where they split
into three separate branches that each continue to S phase. To map cell identities onto cell cycle-annotated
single cells, we used cell-identity markers identified in an independent analysis[42]. Despite filtering out cell type-
specific markers in the original ordering, different cell types still favored—but were not restricted to—distinct
regions of the UMAP space (Figure 2B, Figure S6). This indicated that, using only a core set of shared cell
cycle markers, cells still clustered by their *in vivo* identity, suggesting the separate branches for one cell cycle
phase represented cell type-specific cell cycles.

The most apparent trend was a difference in G1 to S branches between inner and outer cell types. Xylem and
phloem occupied successive layers of a left branch, with endodermis and cortex on an outermost layer of the
branch (Figure 2B). Epidermal cell types occupied a distinct second branch, and a third branch contained the
slow cycling cells around the quiescent center (QC), the core of the stem cell niche (Figure 2B). This distinct
stem cell behavior is in accordance with the well-documented slower rate of division of these cells compared to
the more proximally located (shootward) transit amplifying cells[6,7,45]. Indeed, the epidermal G1 branch is
enriched for genes related to translation, while the stele-endodermis-cortex G1 branch is characterized by
gene expression related to cell wall synthesis (Figure 2C, Table S4). This suggests that the specialized
functions of specific cell types are at least partially regulated within the cell cycle as they mature in the
meristem. This is consistent with the hypothesis that plant cells have multiple G1 modes[46].

In addition, we observe two subpopulations of cells in G2/M, separated into an upper and lower branch (Figure
2A). While many genes were commonly expressed across G2/M cells, we found unique functional enrichments
between these branches. The upper branch expressed genes that regulate the G2/M transition, while the lower
branch expressed cytokinesis regulators (Figure 2D). These two branches reveal a set of *in vivo* G2/M
processes shared by all cell types.

Nonetheless, we observed cell type-specific biases within the different regions of the G2/M branch, potentially
indicating differences in the amount of time cells spent in a given sub-phase of G2/M (phase dwelling). To test
this hypothesis *in vivo*, we generated long-term time-lapse light sheet microscopy movies of roots expressing
the three-color cell cycle translational reporter, PlaCCI, which marks G1 (CDT1a, cyan), S (HTR13, red), and
Late G2 through M phase (CYCB1;1, yellow[18]). We measured G2/M duration in epidermal, cortical, stele, and
lateral root cap cells (Figure 2E, 2F, movies S1). From one such time lapse, epidermal and cortical cells
remained in G2/M twice as long as stele and lateral root cap cells. But there was also significant variation in
G2/M duration within cell types. For example, the length of epidermal G2/M ranged from 01:00 to 10:10
(hh:mm) and the range was 00:10 to 01:50 in the stele (Figure 2F). Thus, live imaging corroborates the cell
type-specific phase-dwelling variations detected by the cell cycle mapping of scRNA-seq profiles. Overall,
these observations reveal the extent to which the cell cycle is tailored to cell identity and developmental stage.

Tissue-wide coordinated G1 exit and rapid G1 is linked to regeneration efficiency

Many questions in plant and animal regeneration concern how cell cycle regulation mediates cellular
reprogramming. For example, we have observed that cell cycle speed increases during RAM regeneration[47],
but it remains unclear whether this is due to a uniform increase in cell cycle speed across phases or whether
certain phases are truncated to achieve fast divisions. Thus, we applied the cell cycle marker analysis to

single-cell analysis of regenerating cells in the excised root tip over a time course of 4 to 36 hours post-injury to analyze their fine-grained cell cycle dynamics. We focused on the relatively small set of cells actively contributing to regeneration, as previously annotated[42], aligning regenerating single-cell profiles in cell cycle pseudotime, similar to above. The analysis showed that regenerating cells disproportionately accumulate at the G1 to S transition and are largely absent from G1 phase (Figure 3A).

This result suggests that G1 is dramatically shortened relative to the other phases of the cell cycle during early regeneration, raising the possibility that cells undergoing reprogramming truncate G1. To measure G1 duration together with fate re-specification, we used time-lapse light sheet imaging on live regenerating roots, quantifying G1 phase duration concurrently with cell fate changes. In the root tip regeneration system, the meristem is excised, completely removing the QC and columella cells, which are then respecified within a day from vascular and other cells left in the cut stump[2]. To enable rapid imaging after regeneration, we generated a similar root-tip excision using a two-photon ablation system in which the root meristem is essentially isolated by a plane of dead cells causing regeneration of QC and columella shootward, as in root tip excision (see below). We used the PlaCCI[18] marker to track cell cycle phase and the QC-columella marker WIP4 to track cellular reprogramming[48]. Return of WIP4 expression shootward of the ablation site marks cells that are in the process of adopting QC and columella fates in the newly formed meristem – a key step of RAM regeneration. By monitoring this region, we could track the full history of cell cycle phases, their duration, and reprogramming state.

We observed that cells in the regeneration zone coordinately exited G1 approximately 6 hours post-injury, within 1 to 2 hours of one another, depending on biological replicate, and prior to new WIP4 expression (Figures 3B and 3C, Movies S2, S3). This results in a significant decrease in the number of G1 cells between 6 to 8 hours after injury (p-value = 0.008047), while the number of S cells does not change (Chi Square test; p-value = 0.3118), consistent with the dramatic depletion of G1 detected in the scRNA-seq analysis of regenerating cells.

Between 8 to 12 hours post-injury, cells proceeded through G1 at an accelerated rate (Figure 3D, 3E). To quantify G1 length, we measured the elapsed time between when CDT1a became visible after mitosis (early G1) to when CDT1a was degraded, indicating S-phase entry. Some of the observed G1 events did not end during the time lapse in both the control (76 percent) and the ablation (38 percent) movies. In these cases, we measured G1 duration in three ways: 1) as the time between when CDT1a became visible and the final frame of the time lapse, 2) as equal to the observed G1 duration time for this region of the root, which is estimated to be longer than 20 hours[7], and 3) as the fraction of total movie duration (Table S5). By all these metrics, the difference in G1 duration is statistically significant (Mann-Whitney test, p-value = 1.614e-08, p-value = 2.04e-05, or p-value = 3.221e-09). Thus, the specific, highly localized set of cells that will reprogram to generate the new root tip undergo much more rapid G1 than their neighbors.

To test the association between rapid G1 and reprogramming, we identified cells that eventually expressed the *WIP4* marker (indicating cellular reprogramming, Figure 3F) and analyzed their cell cycle dynamics retrospectively in the time-lapse movies. We compared the timing of re-specification in cells with short G1 vs. neighboring cells that displayed longer G1s (Figure 3G). We categorized cells based on short, medium, and long G1 and S duration. While cells gained WIP4 expression at a similar rate regardless of S phase duration, cells with short G1 gained higher WIP4 expression levels than nearby cells with long G1 (Figure 3G). There was no relationship between WIP4 expression and G1 duration in unablated roots (Figure S7). Thus, a specific group of cells in the regenerating stump that undergo fast G1 reprogram more rapidly than slower G1 neighbors.

To determine whether the relationship between G1 length and re-specification holds for other markers that are expressed later during regeneration, we looked at a late-stage marker for columella, PET111. In this case, we exploited variability in PET111 return time and G1 duration between roots to explore whether these two variables were correlated. In this analysis, G1 duration was broadly predictive of PET111 re-appearance

(Figure 3H). For example, a root in which the median G1 duration was 1.5 hours began to express PET111 in
the regeneration domain at 20 hours post-injury. A second root in which median G1 duration was 2.7 hours
began to express PET111 at 28 hours post-injury. Thus, we conclude that rapid G1 phases in plant root
regeneration facilitate the complete, *de novo* reprogramming of excised cell fates.

GSH is enriched in G1 nuclei at steady state and immediately following tissue damage

Having implicated G1 duration in control of regeneration efficiency, we next sought to establish a mechanistic
link between injury and cell cycle regulation. The finding above showing "response to wounding" and "response
to oxygen-containing compound" terms enriched in G1 was intriguing because ROS has potential links to both
the cell cycle and wounding (Figure 1F). In particular, GSH is the primary antioxidant in the cell, and GSH
levels in the nucleus have been found to vary over the course of the cell cycle in both plants and animals[32]. In
Arabidopsis, GSH has been demonstrated to be necessary for the G1 to S transition in root formation[30]. In
addition, ROS generation is a hallmark of tissue damage[35], with variants in genes controlling thioredoxin-
mediated ROS associated with natural variation in regeneration capacity in Arabidopsis[49]. Thus, we reasoned
that G1 cells could be primed to respond to ROS signals generated by tissue damage.

To explore this connection, we performed live imaging with the ROS indicator H2DCFDA and the GSH dyes
blue CMAC and CMFDA during stereotypical root growth and regeneration (Figures S8 and S9). We first
confirmed that these dyes had no effect on meristem size and regeneration efficiency (Figure 4A). We used
time-lapse confocal imaging and the ablation described above to observe GSH localization within the first 30
minutes of tissue damage We distinguished cells in G1 vs S phase using the PlaCCI marker (noting that the S-
phase mCherry marker is also expressed in early G2 phase[18]). We found that, in control roots, blue CMAC
signal was higher in G1-phase nuclei than in S phase nuclei (Figure 4B), building on prior evidence that
suggested nuclear GSH controls the G1 to S transition[30,33]. In regeneration, we observed a pulse of nuclear
GSH immediately after ablation just above the injury site (Figures 4C-4E, Movie S4). In addition, in the root
cutting injury, at the 2- and 4-hours post cut (HPC) time points, nuclei that showed the highest CMAC signal
shootward of the cut site were in the same region in which cells undergo rapid G1 phases (Figure S10).
Overall, the results suggested that the earliest cells to reprogram first undergo a local burst of GSH import into
the nucleus then exhibit a coordinated G1 exit followed by a rapid G1 phase.

GSH depletion inhibits regeneration efficiency

To explore the functional role of GSH in regeneration, we depleted GSH during regeneration using the GSH
synthesis inhibitor, L-Buthionine-sulfoximine (BSO), following similar treatments in Arabidopsis[31]. We first
depleted GSH in roots by germinating seedlings on plates supplemented with 1 mM mM BSO (Figures 5A and
5B), as used previously [31]. We performed this experiment on seedlings expressing PlaCCI and the WIP4
transcriptional reporter to simultaneously track cell division and QC reestablishment, while also using blue
CMAC staining to visualize GSH.

The control seedlings regenerated a new QC shootward of the ablation over the course of 72 hours (Figure
5B). Seedlings germinated on 1mM BSO were depleted for blue CMAC signal (Figure 5A), and they showed
weak WIP4 expression shootward of the ablation through 72 post-injury. In addition, these roots failed to form
an expression pattern indicative of new QC establishment (Figure 5B). However, as previously shown[31], we
observed that most seedlings treated in this manner had short roots before the ablation, raising the possibility
that meristem defects before ablation impaired regeneration. To address this issue, roots were germinated on
a lower concentration of BSO (0.5mM) on which they displayed normal morphology[31] Although ablated roots
grown on this lower BSO concentration eventually regenerated, they showed a lower amount of WIP4
expression in the regeneration zone at 24 hours post-injury (Figures 5C and 5D). Thus, depletion of GSH to a

level that does not affect stereotypical root growth still impairs the re-specification of the columella and QC
marker.

Columella cells are necessary for the root to sense gravity, which requires ballast-like organelles called
amyloplasts that settle along the gravity vector. Thus, amyloplasts are a functional marker for columella re-
specification. To quantitatively assess the effect of GSH depletion on regeneration efficiency, we monitored the
number of cells containing amyloplasts in excised root tips with modified Pseudo Schiff-Propidium Iodide
(mPS-PI) staining[50] at 18 hours post-injury in four conditions: mock, 0.5 mM BSO, 0.5 mM GSH, and 0.5 mM
BSO + 0.5 mM GSH combined. We found that treatment with BSO significantly decreased the number of cells
with *de novo* amyloplasts at 18 hours and that co-treatment with GSH rescued regeneration to the level of
untreated roots (Figures 5E and 5F), consistent with regeneration defects caused by diminished levels of GSH
post-injury.

We next directly tested whether BSO treatment perturbs G1 dynamics during regeneration by performing long-
term time-lapse imaging in the PlaCCI line with roots germinated on 0.5 mM BSO. We found that following
injury, G1 cells in BSO-treated roots failed to undergo the coordinated exit that we observed in untreated roots
(Figure 6A). We formalized this observation by performing a survival analysis, recording how long it took cells
in G1 at the beginning of the time lapse to enter S phase (Figure 6B). We found that the time cells remained in
G1 was significantly prolonged in BSO-treated roots (log rank test; p value < 2e-16). In addition, the
presumptive new columella cells failed to develop their characteristic columnar cell morphology within 24
hours, indicating a defect in regeneration (Figure 6C). Interestingly, BSO appeared to have a greater effect on
cells away from the immediate injury site. For example, in BSO-treated roots, most cells above the injury failed
to exit G1 in a coordinated manner, while the first two or so layers of cells near the cut site still showed the
coordinated exit despite BSO treatment (Figure 6D). This is consistent with a gradient of GSH that is highest in
cells immediately adjacent to the wound site dissipating in more proximal cells, where BSO was presumably
more competent to disrupt GSH signaling. Overall, the effects of the BSO treatment on cellular morphology,
WIP4 expression levels (Figure 5C, 5D), amyloplast formation (Figures 5E and 5F), and G1 dynamics lead to
the conclusion that GSH depletion slows regeneration at least in part through modifying G1 exit and duration.

Ground tissue is a major source of glutathione in growth and regeneration

In our staining for GSH in unablated roots, we observed a striking pattern in which blue CMAC was highly
localized to the cap, epidermis, and ground tissue (cortex and endodermis), while the stele stained much more
weakly (Figure 4A, leftmost panel). The pattern did not appear to be an artifact of limited cell penetration, as
the two GSH dyes Blue CMAC and CMFDA have similar staining patterns, while the ROS indicator H2DCFDA,
which has a similar chemical structure to CMFDA[51], stains all files relatively evenly (Figure S8A). In particular,
with both blue CMAC and CMFDA, we observed highly concentrated staining in the endodermis and cortex
(Figure S8A). The localization pattern was consistent with independent data we gathered from scRNA-seq
studies that showed GSH biosynthesis genes are also highly expressed in the ground tissue (Figure S8B). This
led us to hypothesize that ground tissue could be a source of GSH for root growth and rapid dissemination
upon injury.

Metabolites and other small molecules can travel rapidly between plant cells through symplastic connections
that form tunnels between adjacent cell walls called plasmodesmata[52]. To ask whether ground tissue could
serve as a source of GSH for other files to enable homeostatic growth and regeneration, we employed a
callose synthase induction system that blocks symplastic transport out of endodermis and the cortex[53] and
then assayed for growth (Figure 7A) and regeneration efficiency (Figure 7B). Exogenous GSH is known to
enhance growth rates in Arabidopsis roots, so we controlled for the nonspecific effects on growth by
comparison to high sucrose (1% versus the standard 0.5%), which also enhances root growth. Accordingly,
both sucrose and GSH both increased growth rates in control roots. However, only GSH-treated roots partially
rescued the growth of the ground-tissue blocked roots (Figure 7A). Furthermore, after injury and symplastic

block of the ground tissue, GSH, but not sucrose, rescued regeneration efficiency (Figure 7B). We conclude
that ground tissue is a source of GSH for normal growth and tissue regeneration, licensing rapid exit from G1,
an abbreviated cell cycle, and rapid cellular reprogramming.

Discussion

There are clear connections between cell division and cell fate decisions across the kingdoms of life. In the
context of root tip regeneration, cell division is known to be necessary to enable complete root tip repair after
excision[2]. Here, we leveraged the ability to induce cellular reprogramming and closely monitor cells with both
time-lapse microscopy and transcriptomics in root tip regeneration to demonstrate that the rate of cell division,
mediated by dramatic alteration of G1 phase, has a direct influence on cellular reprogramming. In our findings,
glutathione (GSH) mediates fast divisions via truncated G1 phase in a small number of cells that will go on to
reprogram their fate first. Furthermore, we found that the ground tissue is an important source of glutathione for
stereotypical growth and regeneration. Given the findings, we posit a model in which GSH produced in the
ground tissue rapidly disseminates to nearby tissues after injury. The GSH stores are preferentially imported
into the nucleus of a subset of cells near the injury site where they instigate coordinated exit from G1 and
accelerated cell divisions that permit rapid cellular reprogramming.

The root has distinct inner, outer and promeristem cell cycles

Using bulk and scRNA-seq, we defined a novel list of cell cycle phase markers, including a large set of G1
markers, which now provide a resource for the plant community, particularly for analysis of the cell cycle in
scRNA-seq studies. By clustering cells based on cell cycle-regulated genes, we detected multiple paths
through G1 indicating that distinct G1 states exist in Arabidopsis roots (Figure 2A). We took several steps to
ensure that cell type-specific markers were filtered out of the cell cycle phase markers, even if they appeared
to be phase-specific. Nonetheless, mapping cell identities onto the cell cycle trajectory revealed that different
cell types appear to prefer unique paths through the cell cycle (Figure 2B, Figure S6). For example, in one G1
phase pseudotime path, xylem and phloem cells appeared to occupy distinctly different layers of a left branch,
while trichoblasts largely occupied a central branch. Genes expressed in the xylem-phloem branch are
enriched for GO terms relating to auxin response and developmental processes (Figure S6). The genes that
were selected as cell cycle phase markers are widely expressed across cell types, so the groupings by cell
identity must reflect how these commonly expressed genes are specifically regulated in a given cell type. It is
feasible that common facets of plant cell biology--such as construction of a cell wall, which also varies among
cell types[54]—are linked to changes in the cell cycle[55] to accommodate differences among cell types.

The most robust cell-cycle markers we identified represent non-canonical cell cycle genes (Figure 2E). This is
evidenced by the fact that, while core cell cycle regulators behave well in our datasets (Figure 1C, 1D, Figure
S5), few genes we identified as being most highly cell cycle-regulated are among the genes considered to be
core cell-cycle regulators (Table S1). It has been argued previously that different occurrences of cellular
quiescence in plants – meristematic quiescence, dormancy, and terminal differentiation – are regulated
distinctly and by non-canonical cell cycle genes[46]. Our results show that multiple subpopulations of G1 cells
exist and that they are characterized by the expression of distinct transcriptional modules. One subpopulation
is characterized by the expression of genes relating to cell wall synthesis, while the other is characterized by
genes regulating translation, both of which are functions that have been tied to the G1 phase in plants[55,56].
Another recent report has shown that the longitudinal axis of the root is largely due to variation in G1 length[7].
Our results support a general model in which the cell cycle is finely tuned to both the maturation stage, as is
well documented, but also to cell identity.

In addition to the ability to detect multiple G1 phase cell populations, we also find evidence for two G2/M
populations, which express genes related to checkpoint regulation or cytokinesis respectively. In parallel, our *in
vivo* data shows that distinct cell types spend different amounts of time in G2/M in the RAM. This indicates our

cell cycle marker set can be used to detect cell cycle sub-phases in Arabidopsis scRNA-seq data and enable
further dissection on cell cycle regulation in existing and future plant scRNA-seq datasets.

Reprogramming plant cells divide rapidly by truncating G1

In metazoans, evidence links rapid G1 phases with competence to reprogram[57,58]. For example, embryonic
stem- and induced-pluripotent cells are characterized by rapid cell cycles with short G1 phases[57]. In plants,
while division times in the indeterminately growing meristems are about 20 hours[6], cell division rates during
embryogenesis, lateral root formation, and root regeneration – all instances of novel root formation rather than
homeostatic growth – show a dramatic acceleration to 3 to 7 hours[23,24,47]. Here, we show that the fast divisions
in regeneration are largely due to a highly truncated G1, consistent with data from efficiently reprogramming
murine hematopoietic progenitor cells[58]--another context in which dramatic changes in the cell cycle are
mediated by alterations in G1.

G1 has been shown in metazoans to be a key point in which cells are receptive to signals that promote
specialized cell fate and differentiation[59–61]. Thus, it has been posited that rapid G1s allow cells to remain
pluripotent by avoiding differentiation signals[59–61]. In our scRNA-seq profiles, we did not detect any enrichment
of known cell identity markers in a given phase of the cell cycle. Thus, we have no evidence that short G1s
could bypass differentiation signals, although we cannot rule out that cell fate markers are induced
synchronously but transcribed at different rates or regulated at another level as has been shown for some
specific contexts in plants[3,4]. Nonetheless, our experiments clearly associate rapid G1 phases and coordinated
G1 exit with the competence to reprogram cell fate across cell types. Importantly, neighboring cells that did not
undergo rapid G1 phases could still reprogram, and, while treatments that perturbed G1 coordination showed
slower regeneration dynamics, even injured roots exposed to such treatment eventually regenerated. Thus,
rapid and coordinated G1s are not absolutely necessary for cellular reprogramming. It is not clear if G1
dynamics during regeneration have a direct role in avoidance of differentiation signals, or, if rapid G1s might
simply allow a faster entry into S phase. While mechanisms have been identified to link maintenance of histone
modifications to DNA replication in plants[62,63], there is inherent potential for remodeling the chromatin
landscape during DNA synthesis through new histone deposition[64].

Another possibility is that regulation of G1 may simply be the best option to control overall speed of the cell
cycle. Several studies have shown that wound responses in plants reflect a bet-hedging strategy that balances
defense responses with regenerative growth[65–68]. A similar bet-hedging strategy may have evolved to control
cell cycle speed. It has been observed that plant stem cells divide infrequently to limit accumulation of
replication-induced mutations[69]. However, wounding creates stresses, such as increased susceptibility of
plants to pathogens[70], that require a rapid response. An ability to trigger fast divisions in otherwise slow-
dividing cells may have evolved to limit risks of pathogen exposure following wounding. The ability to pass
through G1 quickly and enable rapid divisions may simply represent an adaptation that permits more rapid
wound healing and leaves the plant less vulnerable to pathogen attack. Of course, rapid G1s could have
multiple roles in regeneration due to a combination of factors.

G1 cells are primed to perceive tissue damage via GSH nuclear influx

Prior studies have shown evidence that GSH is necessary for the G1 to S transition[30], while *in vitro*
experiments showed that GSH is imported into the nucleus during G1[33]. We showed here that GSH is enriched
in G1 nuclei during normal development (Figure 4B) and is transiently increased in G1 nuclei following tissue
damage (Figure 4D, 4E, Figure S10). We further present evidence that this transient influx regulates G1 exit
during regeneration *in vivo* (Figure 6). Our live-imaging experiments showed that GSH is rapidly nuclear
localized in G1 cells, some of which will go on to become the new stem cell niche. This implies that G1 nuclei
are inherently more able to take up GSH than those of cells in other phases. Interestingly, when BSO

treatment is used to deplete GSH, we find that only the cells closest to the wound site maintain coordinated G1
exit (Figure 6D). This appears to reflect higher levels of GSH closer to the wound, which is feasibly a source of
GSH following injury.

Together the evidence leads to a model that could potentially link damage-sensing with cell cycle regulation.
G1 nuclei are primed to perceive damage to neighboring cells via GSH nuclear permeability. In this model,
GSH released from lysed cells, either directly or by modulating overall nuclear ROS, serves as a damage-
sensing signal that allows plant cells to respond to injury by increasing cell cycle speed in close proximity to the
wound site.

How G1 nuclei maintain higher GSH permeability than nuclei in other phases of the cell cycle remains an open
question. While there is good evidence that the OPT family of genes control intercellular GSH transport in
plants (reviewed in[71]) and the CLT family of genes control GSH transport between the cytoplasm and
plastids[72], the mechanism through which GSH is preferentially imported into G1 nuclei in plants is not known[73].
In animals, Bcl-2 has been implicated in the GSH nuclear import[74]. However, plants have no apparent
orthologs to Bcl-2. Looking forward, identification of the mechanism responsible for mediating transport of GSH
into G1 nuclei will represent a key link between wound signaling and cell cycle regulation in plants.

Regeneration competence is associated with high levels of GSH across kingdoms

Several lines of evidence in our study pointed to a special role for the endodermis and outer tissues in
controlling GSH availability. First, regeneration was impaired when we inhibited the movement of GSH out of
the endodermis and cortex (ground tissue) by blocking symplastic connections (Figure 7). Even though both
GSH and sucrose enhanced plant growth in general, GSH--but not sucrose--could rescue inhibition of
regeneration caused by endodermis and cortex symplastic isolation. In addition, our staining experiments
showed GSH is enriched in the endodermis and cortex (Figure S8)--the same tissue where our independent
scRNA-seq experiments showed the enzyme for the rate limiting step in GSH synthesis highly enriched[42].

There is ample evidence that the ground tissue has a specific role in controlling root growth. First, mutants that
affect ground-tissue identity, such as *scr* and *shr*, lead to severely stunted roots[75,76]. In addition, it was shown
that rescuing SCR function only in the endodermal tissue (leaving out its quiescent center domain) partially
rescues *scr* mutants' growth defect[77]. Some of the endodermal control appears to be mediated by hormone
signaling, particularly during stress (reviewed in[78]). Our data suggests that another way that the endodermis
controls growth is as a source of GSH to promote G1 exit and advance the cell cycle. In addition, we implicate
a unique role for the endodermis in regeneration where it appears to provide a rapid flux of GSH through
plasmodesmatal connections (Figure 7).

The association between GSH levels and the competence to regenerate is another trait shared across
kingdoms. In animals, the liver also has the highest capacity to regenerate among solid organs[79]. The liver is
also the organ with the highest GSH levels[80], and, as in root regeneration, liver regeneration is also inhibited by
perturbation of GSH levels via BSO treatment[81]. Thus, the metabolic environment and core signaling properties
of GSH may establish some of the competence of regenerative tissue.

The regulation of G1 by GSH import and the involvement of fast divisions in pluripotency are remarkably
similar facets of regeneration in plants and animals, even if the specific mechanisms have diverged. As efforts
are underway in both kingdoms to improve regeneration, the mechanisms that control rapid G1 are promising
tools to control the process. Our study points to a remarkably conserved role for GSH and its role in G1
truncation and highlights the role of the metabolic environment in regeneration.

<u>Limitations of the study</u>

Several corroborating lines of evidence supported our localization of GSH in the root and we used multiple methods to validate cell cycle reporters. Nonetheless, first, we point out that this work relies on dyes to visualize GSH in vivo rather than direct visualization. While direct visualization of GSH is possible via mass spectroscopy imaging, the spatial resolution of this technique is not yet fine enought to achieve cell type-specific resolution in the Arabidopsis root, where many cells are smaller than 10 microns in the x and y dimensions. Further, direct GSH biosensors are not currently available for plants. It will be important to examine GSH localization directly via live imaging when the requisite technology becomes available. The second limitation relates to our isolation of cells by phase using FACS. In the ideal case, we would have used the cell cycle readout of PlaCCI using FACS to define cell cycle phase to obtain bulk protoplast populations using the markers from each phase alone from the same batch of roots. However, we found that the CDT1a and CYCB1;1 fluorescent fusion proteins that mark G1 and G2/M phases in the PlaCCI reporter rapidly diminished in protoplasts. The PlaCCI reporter enabled significant advances in the ability to study the cell cycle in plants in vivo. In addition, the work shows the role of fast divisions in rapid cellular reprogramming. However, it does not address how rapid vs. slower reprogramming could provide an advantage to the plant. Further work could focus on the ecological or physiological advantages or tradeoffs of rapid cellular reprogramming in regeneration.

Acknowledgements

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Author contributions

L. R. L.: Conceptualization, Methodology, Validation, Formal analysis, Investigation, Writing - Original Draft, Writing - Review & Editing, Visualization. B. G.: Resources, Data Curation, Writing - Review & Editing. R. R.: Investigation, Writing - Review & Editing, Visualization. C. H.: Investigation. B. D.: Resources, Writing - Review & Editing. C. G.: Resources, Writing - Review & Editing. K. D. B: Conceptualization, Methodology, Writing - Original Draft, Writing - Review & Editing, Supervision, Funding acquisition.

Declaration of Interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

Main Figure Titles and Legends

Figure 1: Single-cell phase synchronized cells yield robust transcriptional markers for each phase of
the cell cycle. (A) Representative images of phase enrichments achieved with HU synchronization using
seedlings expressing the PlaCCI reporter. G1 cells are shown in cyan, S cells are shown in red, and G2/M
cells are shown in yellow. (B) An unsynchronized control and three single cell profiles collected at specific
times after synchronization integrated in UMAP with cells color coded by phase determination. Cells from each
time point were separated after integration. (C) Genes (each dot) categorized as differentially expressed in
specific phase-synchronized libraries. The y axis represents the difference in the percentage of cells in which
the gene is expressed in target versus non-target libraries. The highlighted genes are gold standard markers of
phase-specific expression, showing high expression in many cells in the appropriate phase-synchronized
library (x axis categories). (D) A dot plot showing expression of gold standard cell-cycle phase markers,
showing known G2/M-phase markers (CYCBs) followed by known S-phase markers. (E) *In situ* hybridization of
novel G1 and G2/M probes. Known markers are shown in yellow and new markers in magenta. The new G2/M
marker is hybridized with a known G2/M marker, showing overlap. The new G1 marker is hybridized with a
known S marker, showing spatial anticorrelation. (F) The top five most statistically significantly enriched GO
terms in the top 50 phase marker set for each phase. See also Figures S1-S5 and Tables S1-S3.

Figure 2: **Different cell types follow different trajectories through the cell cycle**. (A) Pseudotime map of cells clustered using only cell cycle markers and colored by phase assigned in Seurat. (B) In the same UMAP clustering in A, cells were labeled by their independently determined cell identity, showing groupings by both developmental stage (e.g., QC region) and radial cell identity. Arrows indicate differentiation stage from young to older (top) inner to outer cell files (bottom). (C) Aggregate expression of genes enriched in either the epidermal or stele-endodermis-cortex G1 branch, which showed genes with differential functions. (D) UMAPs showing the expression of genes specific to sub-regions of the G2/M branch, with representative genes involved in cytokinesis (lower branch) and the G2/M transition (upper branch). (E) Variable lengths of G2/M phase marker expression shown within and between cell types, with representative time-lapse montages of the entire late G2/M period shown indicating duration. Red = HTR13 and yellow = CYCB1;1. (F) Quantification of G2/M duration for many cells. Asterisks represent significant differences in G2/M duration (pairwise t-test, $p < 0.05$). See also Figure S6, Table S3, and movie S1.

Figure 3: The G1 phase of the cell cycle is dramatically truncated in regenerating cells. (A) Summary of the frequency of a given cell cycle phase in regenerating (yellow) and non-regenerating (grey) cells. Cells are aligned along a cell cycle pseudotime on the x axis, with their density shown on the y axis with G1 predominant in non-regenerating cells and almost absent in regenerating cells. (B) Quantification of the coordinated G1 exit, showing the coordinated depletion of cells in G1 phase around 6 hours post ablation (HPA) highlighted by grey shading. (C) Representative images of the coordinated G1 exit (bottom). S-phase cells (top) serve as a control showing a continuous strong signal (no depletion) in the same roots. (D) Quantification of G1 duration in control and ablated roots for two trials. Time is normalized within each root. Filled dots represent cells in which the end of G1 was observed. (E) Representative time-lapse series of a short G1 in which cells pass through the phase in as little as 2 hours. (F) Representative image of WIP4 expression domain before ablation and 24 HPA. The purple wavy line marks the location of the ablation. (G) Quantification of WIP4 signal over time in G1 and S phase cells, with different plots showing analysis of cells grouped by the length of G1 or S. H. Quantification of G1 duration in two roots (left) and the timing of PET111 expression establishment in the regeneration zone in the same two roots (right) showing the association between G1 duration and PET11 appearance. Trials refer to individual root time lapses. See also Figure S7, Table S4-S5s, and Movies S2-S3.

Figure 4: Regenerating cells import glutathione to the nucleus in G1. (A) Representative confocal microscopy image of a PlaCCI seedling stained with blue CMAC overnight, showing phase markers and blue CMAC staining. (B) Quantification of blue CMAC in G1 and S phase nuclei. (C) Images showing the location of cells analyzed in 4D annotated (circles) and show in insets. All cells in these images were analyzed in 4E. (D) Representative images of cells in each phase of the cell cycle in control and ablated roots shown in a time-series montage. (E) Quantification of the of cumulative change in blue CMAC levels in nuclei of cells in each cell cycle phase in a control or an ablated root over time. Time 0 is the beginning of the time lapse, and the time of the ablation is shown in the right panel as a wavy purple line. Image frames were taken three minutes apart. The blue peak in ablated cells at 10 minutes shows G1 cells in the ablation time lapse experience a temporary increase in blue CMAC staining levels (GSH nuclear localization). See also Figure S8-S10 and Movie S4.

<u>Figure 5</u>: Depletion of GSH biosynthesis with BSO impairs regeneration and is rescued by exogenous GSH. (A) 7 days post germination (DPG) seedlings (PlaCCI x WIP4) grown on MS (control) or germinated on MS+1mM BSO then stained overnight with blue CMAC. (B) Representative images of the WIP4 signal in a median section of a control and BSO-treated root at 24 and 72 HPA. (C) Representative images of WIP4 signal 24 HPA in control and 0.5 mM BSO treatment. (D) Quantification of WIP4 signal in the regeneration zone of roots 24 HPA in control and 0.5 mM BSO treatment. The y-axis is the scaled corrected total cell Fluorescence. (E) Representative images of regenerating root tips stained with mPS-PI to visualize cell walls and amyloplasts 18 HPC. Cells with amyloplasts are pseudo-colored in yellow. The treatments are control, 0.5 mM BSO, 0.5 mM GSH, or combined 0.5 mM BSO + 0.5 mM GSH. (F) Quantification of the number of cells with amyloplasts in a population of roots from each treatment group shown in E. Pairwise statistical testing was performed using the Wilcoxon test.

Figure 6: **Depletion of GSH with BSO eliminates the coordinated exit from G1 and increases G1**
duration in regeneration. (A) Representative images from a control (upper) and BSO treated time lapse
immediately shootward of the ablation site, showing the S phase (red) and G1 (cyan) markers. Cells from the
cortex in G1 are bracketed to highlight the differential disappearance of G1 phase cells in control vs. post
ablation. S phase cells are shown to confirm no change in their fluorescent signal. (B) G1 duration quantified in
survivor curves, where cells in G1 were identified in the first frame of the time lapse and tracked until their
transition to S phase for control (dashed line) and BSO-treated (solid line) time lapse experiments. Lightly
colored lines are individual replicates, and the bold line is a LOESS regression of the two trials. P-value of
survival rates is significantly different between control and BSO using the log rank test. (C) Images from the 24
HPA timepoint showing a marker for newly formed columella cells by measuring the proximal/distal range of
expanded cells (characteristic of columella, white bracket). (D) Time that cells exit G1 mapped onto the given
cell's coordinates within the roots, where the Y-intercept represents the ablation site and each dot represents a
cell with two example roots per condition (A,B). Shading scale represents time post ablation when a cell exited
G1 phase.

Figure 7: **The ground tissue is a source of GSH in homeostatic growth and regeneration.** (A) Root growth post callose-synthase induction for each treatment condition. Root lengths are scaled from 0 to 1 within technical replicates to their own controls to render them comparable across batches. Statistical significance was determined by the pairwise t-test comparing estradiol or non-estradiol categories (i.e. mock was tested versus GSH and estradiol was tested versus estradiol + GSH). (B) At left, regeneration rates based on the gravitropism test at 48 HPC. The conditions are control (mock), GSH treated roots, estradiol-treated roots (induction of callose synthase expression to block transport out of the cortex and endodermis), estradiol + GSH treated roots. At right, the same treatments substituting 1 µM sucrose for GSH. Red and blue dots represent the regeneration rates of technical replicates.

 Supplemental Figure Titles and Legends

Figure S1. Single Cell RNA-seq Profiles Show Robust Signals in Quality Control; Related to Figure 1.
(A) Violin plots showing the number of genes (nFeature_RNA), RNA molecules (nCount_RNA), and the
percentage of reads from mitochondrial genes (Percent_MT) per cell in each scRNA-seq library. (B) For each
library, a pair of scatter plots shows (1) the anti-correlation between percent mitochondrial reads and number
of RNA molecules detected (at left), and (2) the correlation between the number of genes and the number of
unique RNA molecules detected (at right). Correlation coefficient is shown above the plot.

Figure S2: Markers robustly identify cell types in phase-enriched libraries, Related to Figure 1. (A) A dot
plot showing the expression of marker genes across clusters defined by cell type in the integrated phase-
enriched libraries. Size of the dot shows the percentage of cells in a cluster expressing the marker and the
colormap shows the average expression of the marker in the cluster. (B) UMAPs highlighting the highly
localized expression of various cell-type specific marker genes, as expected for robust capture of cell identities
in scRNA-seq profiles.

A

	G₁ enriched	S enriched	G₂M enriched
Atrichoblast	74	74	74
Atrichoblast / Epidermis	15	15	15
Atrichoblast Mature	20	20	20
Cortex	12	12	12
Endocortex	14	14	14
Endodermis	3	3	3
Epidermis / Trichoblast / LRC / Columella	89	89	89
G₂M	128	37	554
G₂M / Epidermis	8	8	8
LRC / Columella	186	186	186
Pericycle / Phloem	28	28	28
QC / Initials / Endodermis	18	18	18
QC / Initials / Stele	115	115	115
Stele	23	23	23
Trichoblast	45	45	45
Xylem / Young Stele	36	36	36
Young LRC / Columella	169	169	169
Young Epidermis	112	112	112

B

markers called for each downsample library

↓

threshold p_val_adj ≤ 0.01

↓

limit to chromosomal genes
(no plastid-encoded genes)

↓

rank genes by differential percentage of cells expressing

↓

take top 50 genes for each phase-enriched library

↓

use top 50 S and G₂M genes
to call phases in full Seurat object

C

<u>**Figure S3**</u>. **Data analysis methods identify cell phase markers with *in situ* validation of a new G1**
marker; Related to Figure 1. (A) Cell counts for down-sampled phase-enriched libraries, ensuring a cell type
contributed an equal number of cells to phase enrichment analysis and each cell type contributed to phase
enrichment analysis. (B) Differential expression analysis pipeline to identify phase markers. (C) Anti-correlation
between the G1 HCR probe and S-phase probe (left) and control plot showing G1 probe and DAPI signal with
no anti-correlation (right).

<u>**Figure S4:**</u> **Bulk RNA-seq profiles of the cell cycle confirm phase-enriched scRNA-seq; Related to**
Figure 1.

(A) Gene expression heatmap (red and blue) in which each row is a gene and each column represents the
average expression profile across bulk RNA-seq profiles. Cells were sorted by phase using FACS to determine
cellular ploidy level. The color bar to the left indicates which phase-enriched scRNA-seq library a given gene
was upregulated in. Genes are grouped into 8 k-means clusters. High overlaps are shown for G1 and G2/M,
while S-phase is not well defined in the ploidy sorting (B) Heatmaps showing the number of overlapping genes
(left) and the statistical significance of the overlap (right) between differentially expressed genes from phase-
enriched scRNA-seq (columns) and gene expression clusters of ploidy-sorted cells determined by k-means
clustering (rows). Yes=statistically significant overlap at p<0.05. See also Table S4.

<u>Figure S5:</u> Enrichment analysis for phase markers shows agreement with known cell cycle markers but identifies more robust markers; Related to Figure 1. (A) Heatmaps comparing expression of classical cell-cycle markers (rows) in cells (columns) grouped by the phase enrichment library from which they came (left) vs. cells assigned to phase based on marker analysis (right). At left, some enrichment of markers is visible but phase enriched libraries still contain cells in the non-target phase. At right, enrichment of known markers is more prominent when cells are grouped by our analysis pipeline, which is independent of the expression of the classical cell cycle markers. (B) A summary analysis of the heatmap data in A. Dotplots show the expression of cyclins in phase-enriched libraries (top) vs phases assigned with our top marker genes (bottom). Cyclins are expressed in the appropriate datasets despite their sparseness (top). Cyclin expression behaves well based on phase assignments performed with our marker genes (bottom). (C) Following the same comparison as in A with the top 50 markers assigned by our pipeline. At left, the markers are shown based on their enrichments in the different phase libraries. These agree with classical markers but the analysis shows the new markers have higher expression and are more frequently detected in single-cell profiles. At right, the analysis show cells grouped into now phases using the top 50 markers. Note that many G1-phase markers also express in early S phase, but S-phase has distinct markers to separate G1 and early S.

<u>**Figure S6**</u>. **Cells of the same identity group together even when clustered by only cell cycle markers;**

Related to Figure 2. (A) UMAP outputs of pseudotime analysis clustered using the top 50 cell-cycle markers

with an independent analysis of cell identity mapped onto the UMAP trajectories. In each panel, a different cell

type is highlighted in black. At left, the cell cycle classifications are shown. (B) Analysis of gene modules that

are preferentially expressed in dominant intervals along the pseudotime ordering, as determined by Monocle3

(see Methods). Grayscale shows the aggregate gene expression of each gene module. (C) GO-terms
associated with the corresponding gene module shown in B. No significant GO terms were found for gene
module 8.

<u>**Figure S7:**</u> **The appearance of newly reprogrammed cell identity correlates with rapid G1 phases;**
Related to Figure 3. (A) Representative images of a control root expressing PlaCCI and WIP4::GFP at 1, 3,
and 6 hour time points during a time-lapse acquisition. (B) Quantification of the WIP4 signal intensity in CFP+
and mCherry+ cells over the duration of time-lapse movies. The figure represents the complete analysis of
data shown in Figure 3E.

Figure S8. **ROS and GSH dyes show different tissue localization patterns; Related to Figure 4.** (A)
Representative confocal microscopy images of seedlings stained for GSH (blue CMAC, CMFDA) or ROS
(H2DCFDA) under control conditions. Note that the two GSH dyes agree and show prominent ground tissue
staining. Note that CMFDA and H2DCFDA, with similar chemical structure but different target molecules, show
different staining patterns. (B) Expression of GSH1 and GSH2 represented as dot plot derived from scRNA-seq
profiles in different root cell types. Note the prominent expression in endodermis and cortex, in agreement with
the GSH dyes.

Figure S9. **Transverse ablation leads to the reformation of a new root tip similar to the root tip excision
procedure; Related to Figure 4.** (A) Representative confocal images of seedlings (grown on standard ½ MS
and then mounted in an imaging cuvette) undergoing regeneration. Between days 4 and 5 post ablation it
becomes apparent that new columella above the ablation is established proximal (shootward) to the original

QC (*), which is below the ablation. The tapered root cap, which includes the columella, is apparent distal to
the new QC (**), both of which are above the ablation site. (B) At a later time point, the original root tip (*) is
sloughed off as growth continues from the new QC/stem cell niche (**) in the same seedling shown in the lower
panel of A.

Figure S10. **GSH dye CMAC is brightest in the same region where cells undergo rapid division and**
shortened G1 during regeneration; related to Figure 4. (A) Representative confocal images of PlaCCI roots
stained with blue CMAC. Images were taken 2, 4, and 9 HPC. (B) Quantification of nuclear CMAC staining
intensity along the proximal-distal axis at different time points after ablation. The y-intercept represents the
ablation site and the range of the y-axis represents the visible length of root imaged in the frame as shown in
A. Note the peak of CMAC intensity right above the cut site between 0.00 and 0.25 on the longitudinal axis of
the root (y-axis), which is highest at 2-4 hrs post cut and begins to dissipate above point 0.25 at 9 hrs.

Methods

Resource Availability

Lead contact

Requests for resources or plant lines should be addressed to the lead contact for this work, Kenneth Birnbaum
(ken.birnbaum@nyu.edu).

Materials availability

Arabidopsis lines generated for this work are available following publication upon request.

Experimental Models and Study Participants

Plant growth and treatment conditions

Arabidopsis Col0 seedlings were grown vertically in an incubator set to long day conditions on ½ MS media unless otherwise noted. For HU treatment, seedlings were synchronized in one of three cell cycle phases as previously described[36]. Briefly, seedlings were grown until 6 DPG vertically on ½ MS on top of sterile mesh (product #03100/32, ELKO Filtering Systems). Then seedlings were transferred to MS plates supplemented with 2mM HU (product # H8627, Millipore Sigma). Various incubation times were used to synchronize cells in different phases of the cell cycle as follows: 6 hours for S phase, 17 hours for G2/M, and 22 hours for G1. Synchronization in each phase was confirmed via confocal microscopy using the PlaCCI reporter. For BSO treatment, seedlings were germinated on MS media alone (control) or supplemented with 1 or 0.5 mM BSO (product # B2515, Millipore Sigma) as previously described [31]. Seedlings were grown vertically on this media until they were 7 DPG and then used for either imaging or regeneration assays. Regeneration assays were performed by manually removing the distal-most 70 microns of the root tip using an ophthalmic scalpel (product #72045-15, Feather Safety Razor Company). Roots were then allowed to grow while regeneration was monitored by either staining for amyloplasts at 18 hours with mPS-PI[50] or by counting the proportion of roots that had recovered gravitropism at 48 hours[2]. PlaCCI seedlings were crossed to cell type reporters including WIP4 (columella and QC) WOX5 (QC), and PET111 (mature columella).

Method Details

Confocal microscopy

Laser ablations that were sufficient to cause new meristem establishment (regeneration) were performed using a Coherent Chameleon Vision II 2-photon laser on a Zeiss 880 Airyscan microscope. A 2-dimensional ROI was specified using the Zeiss ROI manager in the Zen Acquisition Black software with the time series, bleaching, and ROI modes enabled. This ROI targeted a transverse section of the root that was positioned approximately 10-20 microns shootward of the QC that spanned the entire medio-lateral dimension of the root with a thickness of approximately 5-10 microns. The ablation laser was used at 710 nm at 100 percent power for 15 iterations. In order to ensure sufficient tissue damage was achieved to induce the root to establish a new meristem, the ablation was performed in 3 Z planes: (1) in the medial plane, and then on both sides of the medial plane (2) closer to the cover slip and targeting the epidermis and cortex (about 15-20 microns off the medial plane), and (3) further from the cover slip than the median plane as deep as the confocal microscope could image into the tissue before imaging quality degraded (15-20 microns from the medial plane). Each ablation was performed as part of a time lapse acquisition, in which typically two frames were acquired, followed by the ablation, and then three additional frames were acquired. These frames were set to be acquired 1 millisecond apart, which functionally resulted in continuous acquisitions and total time lapses of approximately 90 seconds. For 30-minute-long time lapses taken on the Zeiss 880 Airyscan confocal, frames were acquired in one Z plane three minutes apart. This laser ablation strategy was adopted to enable imaging of injured roots that were already mounted in a cuvette compatible with our light sheet setup (described below) so that we could monitor injury response via time lapse microscopy without any confounding effects of the stress of mounting seedlings after root tip removal.

Plants were stained with blue CMAC by mounting in imaging cuvettes as described above using media supplemented with blue CMAC (ThermoFisher #C2110) to achieve a concentration of 10 µM once the media had equilibrated to 30 degrees Celsius. Media was then split into a number of batches equal to the number of treatment conditions to ensure that all conditions received the same concentration of blue CMAC. Additional treatments were then supplemented into the relevant batch of media as required. 5 mL of each media

treatment was then added to its own cuvette and cured for at least four hours at 4 degrees Celsius. Plants
were then transferred to an imaging cuvette and allowed to recover in the growth chamber overnight.

<u>Light Sheet Microscopy</u>

Samples were mounted for light sheet microscopy as follows: plants were grown vertically on MS plates for 6
days. On day 6, 5 mL of MS with 2% low melt agarose was cast into imaging cuvettes (CellVis product number
#C1-1.5H-N) after being filtered through a 0.45 micron nylon filter (product # 76479-042, VWR) to remove any
particulates that might disturb the path of the light sheet to prepare media "blankets". These blankets were
stored at 4 degrees Celsius for at least four hours prior to mounting to ensure they had fully polymerized. A
sterile scalpel and forceps were used to remove a small amount of media from one end of the cuvette to create
a gap that could be used to lift the media out of the cuvette. The scalpel was then gently run along the edge of
the imaging chamber to free the blanket while producing minimal distortions to the media. Sterile canted
forceps were then used to gently lift the media blanket out of the cuvette and placed in a sterile petri dish.
Several 6 DPG seedlings were placed on top of the media blanket such that the roots were in contact with the
blanket and the shoots hung off the edge. A fresh cuvette was then lowered over the blanket until the blanket
made contact with the cover slip at the bottom of the cuvette. Seedlings were inspected for tissue damage
under a brightfield microscope and any gaps between the blanket and the wall of the cuvette were filled in with
additional filtered media prepared as above to ensure the light sheet did not pass through any air gaps. The
assembled cuvettes were then placed into a growth chamber overnight oriented such that the roots pointed
downward to allow the plants to recover from the stress of the mounting procedure. Roots were then imaged at
7 DPG. Seedlings were imaged on an inverted Leica model Dmi8 outfitted with a Tilt Light Sheet Imaging
System (Mizar) with filters optimized to visualization of YFP, CFP, and mCherry (Chroma). Roots were imaged
with a 40X water immersion objective, with stacks spanning the entire Z dimension spaced 1.5 microns apart
acquired every ten minutes in mCherry, CFP, and YFP to create time lapse movies of PlaCCI. Laser power
and acquisition time was adjusted for each experiment to account for variable distance of the sample to the
side of the cuvette through which the light sheet enters. A sample binning of 2 was used to improve signal
brightness. For imaging of the F3 progeny of PlaCCI crossed to the WIP4 transcriptional reporter or the
PET111 enhancer trap line[48] in which both transgenes had been screened for stable brightness, a fourth
channel - GFP - was imaged. No photobleaching was observed using these imaging conditions over the
course of a time lapse. To maintain imaging quality, water was added to the 40X objective after 7-10 hours of
imaging depending on the ambient humidity. This was accomplished by briefly removing the imaging cuvette
between acquisitions, adding additional water to the objective, and then replacing the cuvette. The stage was
adjusted to recenter the sample and then the image was realigned *post hoc* using Imaris to account for any
subtle shifts in sample position. This allowed us to avoid moving the stage, which would necessitate adjusting
the focus of the light sheet midway through the time lapse acquisition.

<u>scRNA-seq</u>

Protoplasts were generated as follows: To collect roots enriched for different phases of the cell cycle, root tips
were synchronized with 2mM HU media as described above. To process cells synchronized in different phases
in parallel, seedlings were transferred to HU media in a staggered manner such that they would be ready for
harvesting at the same time.

The distal-most 400 µm of approximately 500 root tips were excised from 7 DPG seedlings and then collected
via capillary action with a P200 pipette tip containing 25 µL of protoplasting buffer. These root tips were then
dispensed into cell wall degrading solution as previously described[82]. Root tips were gently agitated on an
orbital shaker for approximately 1 hour and were gently pipetted up and down with a P1000 pipette every ten
minutes after the first half hour of incubation. Root tips were then passed through a 40-micron cell strainer

(product # 08-771-1, Fischer Scientific) and any large aggregates of cells were gently pressed against the
strainer using sterile flat forceps to release any cells that had so far failed to dissociate.

10X libraries were prepared from protoplasts to generate scRNA-seq libraries using the Chromium Next GEM
Single Cell 3' Reagent Kit v3.1 (10X Genomics) following manufacturer's instructions.

The cDNA and sequencing library fragment sizes were both measured with the Agilent Tapestation 4200 using
the high sensitivity 1000 (product # 5067-5582, 5067-5583) and 5000 (product # 5067-5592, 5067-5593)
reagents respectively. Sample concentration was detected using the Qubit HS dsDNA (product # Q32851,
Thermofischer) assay following manufacturer's instructions. Library quantitation for pooling was performed as
follows: the fragment size and concentration of the library in ng/µL were used to determine the molarity of the
libraries with the following equation: [Lib Conc (ng/µL)]/[(Frag Length (bp) * 607.4)+157.9] * 1000000. Libraries
were then diluted to 3 nM concentration and pooled for sequencing. Samples were sequenced on a Novaseq
6000 using an SP flowcell in 28x91 paired end 100 cycle mode with V1.5 reagents (100 cycles).

<u>Bulk RNA-seq</u>

For bulk RNA-seq, total RNA was extracted from sorted protoplasts using the Qiagen RNA micro kit following
manufacturer's instructions. RNA quality was determined using RNA high sensitivity reagents (product # 5067-
5579, 5067-5580, 5067-5581, Agilent) for the Agilent TapeStation 4200. Total RNA was used to synthesize
cDNA using the SMART-Seq v4 full-length transcriptome analysis kit from Takara (product # 634888) using
protocol B specified in the manual on page 12. The quality of cDNA was then assessed using D1000 reagents
for the Agilent Tapestation. The resulting cDNA was used to generate sequencing libraries with the Ovation
Ultralow Library System V2 from Tecan (product # 0344) following manufacturer's instructions. Libraries were
then sequenced on a Novaseq 6000 with an SP flowcell in 1x100 single end 100 cycle mode with V1.5
reagents (100 cycles).

Cells were collected by FACS as follows: Root protoplasts were sorted using a BD FACS Aria II using FACS
Diva software as described previously[83,84]. Briefly, protoplasts were sorted directly from cell-wall degrading
solution into a 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tube containing 350 µL of Qiagen RNA extraction buffer supplemented
with beta mercaptoethanol.

Protoplasts expressing an H2B RFP fusion and a CDT1a GFP fusion under the native promoter were sorted
and gated to remove doublets and debris. Then RFP positive events were identified by plotting red scale
autofluorescence versus RFP and then gating for cells that showed RFP fluorescence above background as
defined by a Col-0 control expressing no fluorescent proteins. In tandem, CDT1a positive cells were identified
by plotting autofluorescence versus GFP and gated for GFP expression above background relative to Col-0
control. Then both the RFP+ and GFP+ populations were plotted in a histogram of RFP signal v. cell count.
This revealed a population with two RFP peaks characteristic of DNA staining in dividing cells. The GFP+
population (CDT1a reporter fluorescence) overlapped with the 2n ploidy peak, which is consistent with its
expression in the G1 phase of the cell cycle and was used as a positive control. Further gates were defined
based on the histogram to collect cells in G1 (2n), G2/M (4n), and S (intermediate RFP signal) phases. These
populations were collected simultaneously in a three-way sort and the maximum number of cells were
collected for each phase. This protocol was repeated independently twice to generate 6 samples for RNA-seq
library preparation. Samples were snap frozen and stored at -80 degrees Celsius until all samples were
collected and could be processed for RNA extraction and library preparation simultaneously.

In order to use cellular ploidy as a proxy for cell cycle phase, it was critical to harvest the distal-most portion of
the root tip in order to avoid harvesting any cells that had already begun endoreduplication. The distal-most
200 µm of approximately 500 root tips were excised from 7 DPG seedlings and then collected via capillary
action with a P200 pipette tip containing 25 µL of cell-wall degrading solution. These root tips were then
dispensed into cell-wall degrading solution. Root tips were gently agitated on an orbital shaker for

approximately 1 hour and were gently pipetted up and down with a P1000 pipette every ten minutes after the
first half hour of incubation. Root tips were then passed through a 40-micron cell strainer and any large
aggregates of cells were gently pressed against the strainer using sterile flat forceps to release any cells that
had so far failed to dissociate. The resulting protoplasts were then transferred to a test tube appropriate for the
cell sorter and immediately processed via FACS.

Sequencing Data Analysis

Bulk RNA-seq

For Bulk RNA-seq, reads were trimmed using Trimmomatic version 0.39 in single end mode with the following
settings: ILLUMINACLIP:TruSeq3-SE:2:30:10 LEADING:3 TRAILING:3 SLIDINGWINDOW:4:15 MINLEN:36.
Trimmed reads were mapped to the Arabidopsis TAIR10 genome using HISAT2 version 2.2.1. Reads mapping
to genes were counted with Rsubread (version 1.22.1) featureCounts in single end mode with a minimum
overlap of 5 and counting only primary alignments and ignoring duplicates. Reads were normalized using the
TPM calculation and the resulting count matrix was used to calculate mean values per condition, filtered to
remove genes with low expression and low variance, and then clustered via k-means clustering. The number
of k (8) was chosen to reflect the total permutations of expression changes (up or down) and cell cycle phases
(G1, S, G2/M).

scRNA-seq

For scRNA-seq the mkfastq function in Cell Ranger 5.0.1 was used to generate fastq files from the raw
sequencing output. Count matrices for scRNA-seq experiments were then generated with the count function
and the TAIR 10.38 release of the Arabidopsis genome.

Quality Control – scRNA-seq

After generating count matrices using Cell Ranger, Seurat was used to filter cells based on the number of
features detected (more than 2000 and less than 10000), percent mitochondrial reads (less than 5), and total
RNA molecules detected (less than 100000). This produced datasets in which the R squared coefficient
between features and counts exceeded 0.93, indicating that the remaining cells in the dataset were healthy
singlets. Libraries were integrated using the sctransform workflow in Seurat[37].

Identifying Cell Cycle Markers

Cell type annotations were carried over from a control dataset that had previously been annotated based on
the expression of cell type specific marker genes. Cell labels were carried over manually by examining the
cluster membership of cells from the control library, which formed the same stable clusters as they had in
previously when integrated with this dataset. Previous cluster identity was then manually transferred to all cells
from the HU-treated datasets that shared cluster membership with the annotated cells from the control dataset.

Transcriptional detection of phase enrichments for scRNA-seq libraries were validated by comparing
upregulated genes in each scRNA-seq library with expression patterns in ploidy-sorted bulk RNA-seq. Due to
the absence of a clear peak for S phase, we collected many fewer cells from S-phase. Thus, we did not expect
a high overlap in this phase. However, phase agreements were high in both G2/M and G1 phases, validating
the synchronization method. For S phase, upregulated genes in the enriched scRNA-seq libraries were
enriched for functions already known to be core for S-phase including many histones. Thus, we used the
scRNA-seq to generate markers because of its high resolution of each phase.

While the scRNA-seq libraries were enriched for cells in each phase of the cell cycle, their cell type
composition was variable. To ensure the identification of cell cycle markers present in all cell types, we

projected them on the same UMAP space, determined the lowest number of each cell type across all enriched
libraries and then randomly down sampled each cell type in each library to produce libraries with equal cell
type composition. We then performed differential expression analysis with cells from each phase enriched
library using Seurat's FindAllMarkers function. Markers were ranked by percent differential expression and the
top 50 for each library were chosen as cell cycle marker genes. Markers were then used to analyze the cell
cycle in the full (not down sampled) scRNA-seq dataset and other non-synchronized scRNA-seq datasets.

Pseudotime Analysis

For cell cycle psuedotime analysis, Monocle3 was used to create the UMAP embeddings with the top 150
ranked genes for each phase of the cell cycle. We then used the learn_graph and order_cells functions to
calculate a pseudotime trajectory for cells based on the cell cycle. To find genes that changed as a function of
pseudotime we used the graph_test function. We then aggregated the gene expression matrix based on evenly
spaced bins along the pseudotime trajectory and clustered those bins based on gene expression to assign
genes to different positions in the pseudotime trajectory.

Data visualization was generated using ggplot2 with Tidyverse, Seurat, pHeatmap, Treemap and Monocle3.

Imaging Data Analysis

Long-term time-lapse images were registered in 3 dimensions by first detecting objects (either nuclei, WOX5,
or WIP4 expression) and then using detected objects to correct the reference frame for the time lapse in 3
dimensions. The new reference frame was then used to correct the time lapse for both translational and
rotational drift. Once drift corrected, nuclei were then segmented again using the spot detection tool. Once
segmented, statistics for all nuclei were exported to R for further analysis. Cell phase was determined by
measuring the amount of YFP, CFP and mCherry signal in each nucleus. If CFP or YFP signal exceeded a
detection threshold cutoff, cells were classified as G1 or G2M respectively. All other cells were classified as S
phase. The PlaCCI reporter does not easily distinguish between cells in S phase versus early G2, so it is
possible that some G2 cells were classified as S phase cells in this analysis. Counts of cells in G1 (Figure 3B),
G1 durations (Figure 3D), and G1 exit time (Figure 6B) were determined manually. The log rank test was used
to determine the significance of the G1 survivorship analysis[85,86].

For still images, 3-dimensional segmentation was performed in Trackmate by treating the Z dimension as a
time dimension. Nuclei were segmented based on the mCherry channel and then data for each channel within
nuclei was exported to R for further analysis.

Confocal image stacks were taken such that nuclei would appear in at least two consecutive slices. Therefore,
all nuclei that appeared in only one slice were discarded. For the remaining nuclei, Blue CMAC signal was
scaled from 0 to 1 per cell file to render nuclei comparable. In the case of short-term time lapses of PlaCCI
roots stained with Blue CMAC taken using confocal microscopy, drift was corrected in 2 dimensions using the
Correct 3D drift plugin in FIJI prior to Trackmate segmentation. Nuclei were filtered if they were not tracked for
the entire time lapse. Blue CMAC signal was calculated as a change over the value at time zero.

In Situ Hybridization

Probe selection - Candidate probes were selected from the top marker set described above if they had a were
expressed in at least 80 percent of cells from the target phase and if they exceeded a differential expression
threshold of 0.25 LFC based on a differential expression test performed in Seurat with the design. Then the
average expression for each gene in the marker set within a given phase was calculated. The top 5 most
highly expressed genes from each phase that had passed the differential expression filtering step were chosen
as candidates for further analysis. The expression of this small set of genes was examined manually to ensure
there was no cell-type-specific bias. Finally, the most strongly expressed candidates from this set were chosen

for probe design. Genes from these sets that had either unknown function or were not previously characterized
as being cell cycle regulated were prioritized. Probe design was performed by Molecular Instruments. *In situ*
hybridization was performed as described previously[87] with the minor modification of eliminating the proteinase
K digestion to preserve the integrity of the Arabidopsis root for imaging.

Quantification and Statistical Analysis

For scRNA-seq statistical analysis, differential expression tests to identify markers were performed using
Seurat in R and the results of that statistical test are reported in Table S1. For imaging and regeneration data,
statistical tests are reported throughout the manuscript and are available in figure legends. All statistical tests
were performed in R. Statistical tests for data comprised of count variables were performed using the Wilcox
test implemented in the rstatix package. Where noted, count data was tested using the Chi-square test with the
stats package. Statistical tests of data comprised of continuous variables was performed the rstatix using the
pairwise t-test function. The log rank test was used to determine the significance of the G1 survivorship
analysis[85,86]. Loess regressions are shown throughout the manuscript with 95% confidence intervals calculated
by the ggplot2 smooth function. Wherever n is less than 30, results are plotted as a combined box and jitter
plot so that the n number is visible in the summary plot. Where n is greater than 30, the n value is annotated
onto the summary plot.

Where fluorescence results are quantified, they are represented as the corrected total cellular fluorescence
where the area of the relevant region of interest (ROI) was multiplied by the average fluorescence intensity of
the background signal of the image. This value was then subtracted from the integrated density value of the
ROI. Each of these values was obtained in FIJI using the measure function. ROIs were either determined
manually based on the expression domain of a reporter gene, or were determined with automatic segmentation
for all visible nuclei using either TrackMate or Imaris.

Gene ontology enrichments were determined using the gene list analysis portal in Thalemine.

Supplemental Table Titles and Legends

Table S1. Summary of all differentially regulated genes identified in this study; Related to Figure 1 and
S1-S5. KmeansClust refers the cluster identified in S4. Sequencing method indicates which method the gene
was detected in. sc_log2foldchange refers the log2 fold change in the scRNA-seq phase marker identification
analysis. Similarly, sc_pval_adj, sc_phase, and sc_diffpct refer to the adjust p-value, enriched library, and
difference in percent cells expressing in the same analysis. Marker indicates which phase a gene was
identified to be a marker of for the top 50 markers. Permissive marker is the same, but includes the top 200
markers.

Table S2. Gold standard markers from prior transcriptional studies; Related to Figure 1.

Table S3. Gene Set Enrichment analysis results for the top 50 and top 200 marker sets as well as the
G1 bulk RNAseq clusters; Related to Figures 1 and S4.

Table S4. Differential expression analysis of G1 subpopulations; Related to Figure 2.

Table S5. G1 duration summary; Related to Figure 3.

Supplemental Movie Titles and Legends

Movie S1. Time lapse movie showing G2/M duration during homeostatic growth; Related to Figure 2.
Time stamp is shown in days:hours:minutes. CYCB1;1-YFP is shown in yellow.

Movie S2. Time lapse movie showing two replicates of PlaCCI crossed to WIP4 during homeostatic
growth; Related to Figure 3. Time stamp is shown in days:hours:minutes. CYCB1;1-YFP is shown in yellow,

CDT1a-CFP is shown in cyan and HTR13-mCherry is shown in red. The CDT1a-CFP channel is also shown in
a separate panel.

<u>Movie S3.</u> Time lapse movie showing two replicates of PlaCCI crossed to WIP4, PET111, or WOX5
during regeneration; Related to Figure 3. Time stamp is shown in days:hours:minutes and represents time
post ablation. CYCB1;1-YFP is shown in yellow, CDT1a-CFP is shown in cyan and HTR13-mCherry is shown
in red. The CDT1a-CFP channel is also shown in a separate panel. In certain panels, other reporters are also
shown in yellow. In the top and bottom panels on the left, PET111 is shown in yellow. In the top right panel,
WOX5 is shown in yellow.

<u>Movie S4.</u> Time lapse showing GSH burst following an ablation; Related to Figure 4. Time stamp is
shown in days:hours:minutes. CYCB1;1-YFP is shown in yellow, CDT1a-CFP is shown in cyan, HTR13-
mCherry is shown in red, and blue CMAC is shown in grey. The blue CMAC channel is also shown in a
separate panel.

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