

1 **Calcium-dependent protein kinase 5 links calcium-signaling with *SARD1*-dependent**
2 **immune memory in systemic acquired resistance**

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15

16 **Summary**

17 - Systemic acquired resistance (SAR) prepares infected plants for faster and stronger
18 defense activation upon subsequent attacks. SAR requires an information relay from primary
19 infection to distal tissue and the initiation and maintenance of a self-maintaining
20 phytohormone salicylic acid (SA)-defense loop.

21 - In spatial and temporal resolution we show that calcium-dependent protein kinase CPK5
22 contributes to immunity and SAR. In local basal resistance CPK5 functions upstream of SA-
23 synthesis, -perception, and -signaling. In systemic tissue, enhanced CPK5 signaling leads to
24 an accumulation of SAR marker genes including transcription factor *Systemic Acquired*
25 *Resistance Deficient 1 (SARD1)*.

26 - Plants of enhanced CPK5-, but not CPK6-, signaling display a 'super-priming' phenotype of
27 enhanced resistance toward a secondary bacterial infection. In *sard1* background, CPK5-
28 mediated basal resistance is still mounted but systemic 'super-priming' is lost.

29 - The biochemical analysis determines CPK5 half maximal kinase activity for calcium K50
30 $[Ca^{2+}]$ to ~100 nM close to the cytoplasmic resting level. This low activation threshold
31 uniquely qualifies CPK5 to decode subtle changes in calcium prerequisite to immune signal
32 relay and to onset and maintenance of priming at later time points in distal tissue. Our data
33 explain why CPK5 functions as a hub in basal and systemic plant immunity.

34

35 **Key words**

36 Calcium-dependent protein kinase 5, calcium-signaling, immune memory, SARD1, systemic
37 acquired resistance

38

39 **Introduction**

40 Rapid and long-term activation of the plant immune system guarantees plant survival upon
41 pathogen infection. Pathogen recognition initiates early intracellular responses at the local
42 infection site, which involve changes in ion fluxes inclusive an increase of the cytoplasmic
43 calcium concentration, recruitment of signaling cascades and the activation of transcriptional
44 reprogramming. The information of local 'having been attacked' is subsequently relayed to
45 distal plant parts. On the basis of phytohormone-mediated transcriptional and metabolic
46 changes, resistance to the attacking pathogen is manifested in the entire plant. The plant
47 may establish and maintain systemic acquired resistance (SAR) and thus prime an immune
48 memory of 'being prepared to defend upon a subsequent attack' (Hake & Romeis, 2018).

49 During defense initiation, a microbial pathogen is recognized at the site of infection via non-
50 species specific Pathogen-Associated Molecular Patterns (PAMPs). PAMPs bind as ligands
51 to specific receptors (Pattern Recognition Receptors (PRRs)), intracellular defense
52 responses become activated and PAMP-triggered immunity (PTI) is established. In a

53 species-specific context, a second layer of defense, Effector-Triggered Immunity (ETI), has
54 evolved to detect PTI-suppressing effectors from adapted pathogens. In ETI defense
55 response activation occurs either directly upon effector binding, or indirectly by the
56 recognition of a process of effector target modification. ETI triggers a stronger more long-
57 term response and hypersensitive cell death reaction. Also, ETI may result in 'priming' of
58 SAR rendering a plant prepared for repeated infection after a time gap. Primed plants show
59 more rapid and stronger activation of defense responses upon a secondary infection even by
60 unrelated pathogens (Conrath, 2006; Hilker *et al.*, 2015; Hake & Romeis, 2018).

61 Both, local and systemic resistance depend on the synthesis, accumulation, and downstream
62 signaling of the phenolic phytohormone salicylic acid (SA). SA biosynthesis is catalyzed by
63 ISOCHORISMATE SYNTHASE 1 (ICS1) and SA transport from the chloroplast to the
64 cytoplasm is mediated by ENHANCED DISEASE SUSCEPTIBILITY 5 (EDS5) (Wildermuth *et al.*,
65 2001; Serrano *et al.*, 2013). SA-dependent responses were shown to be under the
66 control of PHYTOALEXIN DEFICIENT 4 (PAD4). PAD4, in concerted action with a lipase-like
67 protein, ENHANCED DISEASE SUSCEPTIBILITY 1 (EDS1), is required for the expression of
68 multiple defense responses in basal defense in PTI and ETI as well as for ETI-associated
69 hypersensitive response leading to systemic resistance (Glazebrook *et al.*, 1997; Wiermer *et al.*,
70 2005; Rietz *et al.*, 2011). SA is perceived by NON-EXPRESSOR OF PATHOGENESIS-
71 RELATED GENES 1 (NPR1) as one of three known SA-receptors (Fu *et al.*, 2012; Wu *et al.*,
72 2012; Yan & Dong, 2014; Manohar *et al.*, 2015; Y. Ding *et al.*, 2018). Continuous SA-
73 signaling will thus impact on changes in histone modification, in gene expression, and in
74 metabolite production and lead to persistent plant resistance to pathogens.

75 This genetic framework subsequent to local pathogen attack in SA-mediated plant resistance
76 is well characterized. Yet little is known about the switch into prolonged systemic continuous
77 SA signaling and the establishment of SAR, a decision which comes for a plant along with a
78 cost on development and severe growth retardation (Hake & Romeis, 2018).

79 The nature of plant signals that bear the information of 'having been attacked' from local
80 infection sites to distal tissues is an ongoing matter of debate. Several metabolites have
81 been described, whose requirement for distal SA accumulation and SAR have been proven,
82 including non-proteinaceous amino acid pipecolic acid (Pip) (Návarová *et al.*, 2012) and most
83 recently N-hydroxypipecolic acid (NHP) (Hartmann *et al.*, 2018). Pip has been recognized as
84 a most prominent signal molecule and marker for SAR. It is synthesized 12 h post pathogen
85 infection from L-Lys through enzymes AGD2-LIKE DEFENSE RESPONSE PROTEIN 1
86 (ALD1) and SAR-DEFICIENT 4 (SARD4) (Bernsdorff *et al.*, 2016; P. Ding *et al.*, 2016;
87 Hartmann *et al.*, 2017). Pip is further modified through FLAVIN-DEPENDENT
88 MONOOXYGENASE 1 (FMO1) to generate NHP. Remarkably, Pip enforces a prolonged SA

89 biosynthesis in systemic plant tissue in an *ALD1/FMO1/ICS1* positive feed-forward loop
90 during SAR.

91 The manifestation of SAR requires key transcriptional regulator SYSTEMIC ACQUIRED
92 RESISTANCE DEFICIENT 1 (SARD1) which is induced late after a priming pathogen attack
93 (Wang *et al.*, 2009; Truman & Glazebrook, 2012; Sun *et al.*, 2015). In distal plant tissue
94 SARD1 mediates continuous SA and Pip synthesis. *sard1* mutants no longer establish SAR
95 (Zhang *et al.*, 2010; Wang *et al.*, 2011) and thus lack the memory of 'having been attacked'.
96 Calcium-Dependent Protein Kinases (CDPKs, in *Arabidopsis thaliana*: CPKs) are calcium-
97 sensor - protein kinase effector proteins in a single molecule. Upon calcium binding, a
98 consensus enzyme with four EF-hand calcium-binding motifs undergoes a conformational
99 change, adopts a kinase-active state and thus phosphorylates target proteins (Cheng *et al.*,
100 2002; Liese & Romeis, 2013; Schulz *et al.*, 2013). CDPKs have consequently been
101 discussed as decoders of changes in the cytoplasmic calcium concentration [Ca^{2+}].
102 Accordingly, CDPKs were identified as positive regulators during the initiation of immune
103 signaling, triggering local immune responses in PTI and ETI, and contributing to basal
104 resistance (Kobayashi *et al.*, 2007; Boudsocq *et al.*, 2010; Kobayashi *et al.*, 2012; Dubiella *et al.*,
105 2013; Gao *et al.*, 2013; Gao & He, 2013). A negative regulatory role in immune signal
106 initiation was demonstrated for CPK28 (Monaghan *et al.*, 2014; Monaghan *et al.*, 2015; J.
107 Wang *et al.*, 2018).

108 Furthermore, CDPKs are implicated in the relay of an immune signal from local to distal sites.
109 In particular, *Arabidopsis* CPK5 has been implicated to drive a calcium- and ROS-based
110 auto-propagating signaling loop, which contributes to signal propagation from a local
111 infection site to un-infected foliar tissue of a plant in PTI (Dubiella *et al.*, 2013; Seybold *et al.*,
112 2014; Hake & Romeis, 2018).

113 However, a specific requirement of calcium signal decoding during the manifestation of SAR
114 in systemic plant tissue at later time points after a primary local pathogen attack is unknown.
115 Plants overexpressing CPK5-YFP show constitutive CPK5 enzyme activity. Enhanced
116 CPK5–signaling leads to constitutive defense responses and increased SA-dependent
117 disease resistance in these plants (Dubiella *et al.*, 2013). Independently, several alleles of
118 *cpk5* have been identified in a forward genetic screen as suppressors of the autoimmune
119 mutant *exo70B1* characterized by its resistance to multiple bacterial and fungal pathogens.
120 *exo70B1* plants display constitutive SA-dependent defense responses reminiscent to those
121 of enhanced CPK5-signaling. Resistance depends on the atypical immune receptor TN2, and
122 TN2 protein interacts with CPK5 stabilizing the enzyme in a kinase-active state (Liu *et al.*,
123 2017). Taken together, these data suggest that CPK5 contributes to the control of long-term
124 systemic resistance and SAR.

125 Here, we address in temporal and spatial resolution the role of CPK5 as a calcium-regulated
126 key component for signaling in systemic resistance. CPK5 functions upstream of the SA
127 signaling cascade comprised by *ICS1*, *EDS5*, and *NPR1* as well as by *PAD4*, and mediates
128 *ALD1*- and *FMO1*-dependent immune responses in basal and systemic resistance.
129 Furthermore, enhanced CPK5 signaling, but not CPK6 signaling, causes an increase in SAR
130 at late time points in distal tissue, and this 'super-priming' requires *SARD1*. *sard1* mutant
131 plants still display CPK5-mediated enhanced basal resistance but lack the memory phase to
132 gain 'super-priming'. CPK5 is capable of responding to even subtle calcium changes due to
133 its low biochemical K_{50} for calcium at ~100 nM. This feature qualifies predominantly CPK5
134 over CPK6 an ideal component in signal propagation and in the systemic control of defense
135 manifestation through a switch in *SARD1*-dependent SAR.

136

137 **Material and Methods**

138

139 **Plant materials and growth conditions**

140 *Arabidopsis thaliana* Col-0 wild type, mutants, CPK5- and CPK6-overexpressing lines and
141 derived crosses were grown under short day conditions (8 h light per 16 h dark cycle) at
142 20°C, 60% relative humidity. The mutant plants represent *cpk5* (SAIL_657C06) and *cpk6*
143 (SALK_025460C). *CPK5-YFP#7* was crossed to *ics1* (SALK_088254), *npr1-1* (N3726), *pad4*
144 (SALK_089936), *eds5* (SALK_091541C), *sard1-1* (SALK_138476C), *ald1* (SALK_007673),
145 and *fmo1* (SALK_026163) and subsequently genotyped in filial generations. Primers used for
146 genotyping are listed in Supplementary Table 1. Plant lines *ics1*, *pad4*, *eds5*, and *sard1* were
147 obtained from the Nottingham Arabidopsis Stock Centre (NASC), *npr1-1* was kindly provided
148 by C. Gatz (University Göttingen, Germany), *ald1* and *fmo1* were kindly provided by J. Zeier
149 (University Düsseldorf, Germany). *CPK5-YFP#7* and CPK5mut-YFP #15 (expressing a
150 kinase-deficient variant of CPK5) have been described previously (Dubiella *et al.*, 2013).

151

152 **Generation of CPK6-YFP overexpressing line**

153 The coding region of full-length CPK6 (AT2G17290) was amplified from Col-0 cDNA with
154 primers CPK6-YFP-LP and CPK6-YFP-RP. The 1636 bp CPK6 fragment was cloned into the
155 pENTR D/TOPO vector (Invitrogen) and confirmed by sequencing. The C-terminal YFP-
156 fusion construct was generated by LR-Gateway recombination into pXCSG-YFP. Transgenic
157 *Arabidopsis* plants were generated by the floral dip method. The flowering *Arabidopsis*
158 *thaliana* Col-0 plants were dipped into *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* GV3101 pMP90RK
159 carrying pXCSG-CPK6-YFP. Seeds were harvested and selected for BASTA-resistance to
160 gain independent transformants.

161

162 **Generation of CPK5-StrepII, CPK6-StrepII and CPK5-YFP-StrepII constructs**

163 The C-terminal CPK6 StrepII-fusion construct was generated by using the pENTR D/TOPO
164 CPK6 vector via LR-Gateway recombination into pXCSG-StrepII. The coding region of full-
165 length CPK5 (AT4G35310) and CPK6 were amplified from pXCSG-CPK5-StrepII, pXCS-
166 CPK5-YFP (Dubiella *et al.*, 2013) and pXCSG-CPK6-StrepII with primers CPK5-StrepII-LP
167 and CPK5-StrepII-RP, primers CPK5-YFP-StrepII-LP and CPK5-YFP-StrepII-RP, and CPK6-
168 StrepII-LP and CPK6-StrepII-RP, respectively. The 1749 bp CPK5-StrepII and 1707 bp
169 CPK6-StrepII fragments were cloned into pET30 expression vector derivate (Novagen,
170 Merck) denominated pET30-CTH (Glinski *et al.*, 2003) via *NdeI* and *XhoI* restriction sites to
171 replace His-tag. To generate pET30-CPK5-YFP-StrepII a fragment encompassing 264 bp of
172 CPK5 (C-terminal part) plus 720 bp YFP was cloned into pET30-CPK5-StrepII using the
173 internal restrictions sites *MfeI* and *BsaI*.

174

175 **Gene expression analysis by RT-qPCR**

176 To analyze transcript levels RNA was extracted from leaf tissue using the TRIzol method
177 (ThermoFisher). 2 µg of RNA was incubated with RNase-free DNase (Fermentas) and
178 subjected to reverse transcription using SuperscriptIII SuperMix (ThermoFisher) according to
179 the manufacturer's protocols. Real-time quantitative PCR analysis was performed in a final
180 volume of 10 µl according to the instructions of Power SYBR Green PCR Master Mix
181 (Applied Biosystems) using the CFX96 system (Bio-Rad). Amplification specificity was
182 evaluated by post-amplification dissociation curves. *ACTIN2* (At3g18780) was used as the
183 internal control for quantification of gene expression. Primer sequences are listed in Table
184 S2.

185

186 **Protein expression and purification**

187 The expression vector pET30 containing CPK5-YFP-StrepII, CPK5-StrepII or CPK6-StrepII
188 was introduced in *E. coli* BL21 (DE3) (Stratagene) strain. Bacteria were grown at 37 °C in LB
189 media containing 50 µg/ml kanamycin and protein expression was induced at OD₆₀₀ 0.5-0.8
190 with 0.3 mM isopropylthiol-β-galactoside (IPTG) and incubated for an additional 2-2.5 h at 28
191 °C. Cells were harvested by centrifugation. Cells were lysed in lysis buffer (100 mM TRIS pH
192 8.0, 150 mM NaCl, 20 mM DTT, 100 µg/ml Avidin and 50 µl protease inhibitor cocktail for
193 histidine tagged proteins per 1 g *E. coli*) by incubation for 20 minutes with 1 mg/ml Lysozyme
194 and additional sonification. Cell debris was removed by centrifugation. The supernatant was
195 loaded on self-packed columns containing 1 ml Strep-Tactin-Macroprep (50% suspension,
196 IBA) equilibrated with wash buffer (100 mM TRIS pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl). Flow-through was
197 loaded on columns three times. After washing columns with 3 ml wash buffer, proteins were
198 eluted with 3x 500 µl elution buffer (100 mM TRIS pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl, 2 mM d-

199 Desthiobiotin). Protein purity and concentration were analyzed via Bradford (Protein assay,
200 Bio-Rad) and 10 % SDS-PAGE and Coomassie staining.

201

202 ***In vitro* kinase assay**

203 *In vitro* kinase assay was performed with StrepII-tag affinity purified recombinant CPK5-
204 variants and CPK6 with substrate peptides Syntide 2 or RBOHD (aa 141-150, encompassing
205 S148: RELRRVFSRR). The final kinase reaction (30 μ l) contained ~25 nM CPK5-variants or
206 CPK6 in a volume of 5 μ l and either 20 μ l buffer E (50 mM TRIS-HCl pH 8.0, 2 mM DTT, 0.1
207 mM EDTA) and 5 μ l reaction buffer (60 mM MgCl₂, 60 μ M RBOHD S148 or 60 μ M Syntide 2,
208 60 μ M ATP, 3 μ Ci [γ -³²P] ATP, 0.2 x buffer E, 30 μ M CaCl₂ or 12 mM EGTA) for time course
209 analysis or 20 μ l calcium buffer (30 mM TRIS pH 8.0, 10 mM EGTA, 150 mM NaCl and
210 different concentrations of CaCl₂ as indicated) and 5 μ l reaction buffer without additional
211 CaCl₂ or EGTA for K50 determination. The reaction was either incubated for 20 minutes at
212 22°C for K50 determination or as indicated for time course analysis. The reaction was
213 stopped by adding 3 μ l 10 % phosphoric acid. Radioactive labeled phosphorylation of
214 peptides was determined by the P81 filter-binding method as described (Romeis *et al.*
215 (2000)). Kinase activities are plotted against the Ca²⁺ concentration using graph GraphPad
216 Prism 4 software (GraphPad Software) in a four parameter logistic equation. Relative kinase
217 activities in percentage are fitted by a four parameter logistic equation with the top fixed to
218 100% constant value using graph GraphPad Prism 4.

219

220 **In-gel kinase assay**

221 Phosphorylation events were monitored in unstressed *Arabidopsis* two-week-old seedlings
222 as described previously (Dubiella *et al.*, 2013). Seedlings were grown on 0.5 MS + 1%
223 sucrose for 2 weeks and harvested in pools of 200 mg and directly frozen in liquid nitrogen.

224

225 **Bacterial growth *in planta***

226 To quantify bacterial growth in *Arabidopsis*, six-week-old plants grown on soil under short
227 day conditions were used. The different *Pseudomonas syringae* strains were grown in King's
228 B media overnight at 28°C in a shaker at 200 rpm. The cells were harvested by centrifugation
229 at 4°C for 15 min at 2,000xg and washed twice with 10 mM MgCl₂. Cells were resuspended in 10
230 mM MgCl₂ to a concentration of 10⁴ cfu/ml used for infiltration into the leaf. For basal
231 resistance *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *tomato* DC3000 was used. In the case of SAR
232 experiments, the primary infection and treatment with either bacterial suspension at OD₆₀₀
233 0.005 (avirulent *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *maculicola* ES4326 avr *Rpm1*) or the control of
234 10 mM MgCl₂ were conducted for two days in three fully developed 'primary' leaves, which
235 were cut 24 h after infiltrations. For the secondary infection the virulent strain *Pseudomonas*

236 *syringae* pv. *maculicola* ES4326 was used. Samples were harvested at day 0 and day 3 post
237 (the secondary) infection. Per *Arabidopsis* line at least 8 plants were inoculated. For the
238 analysis of systemic signal propagation, six-week-old *Arabidopsis* plants were used.
239 Experiments were performed as described previously (Dubiella *et al.*, 2013).

240

241 **Gas chromatographic analysis of amino acid derivatives**

242 The analysis was performed as described by Návarová *et al.* (2012). Statistical analysis was
243 done using student's t-test.

244

245 **Accession numbers**

246 Sequence data from this article can be found in the Arabidopsis Information Resource or
247 GenBank/EMBL databases under the following accession numbers: *CPK5* (AT4G35310),
248 *CPK6* (AT2G17290), *ICS1* (AT1G74710), *NPR1* (AT1G64280), *PAD4* (AT3G52430), *EDS5*
249 (AT4G39030), *SARD1* (AT1G73805), *ALD1* (AT2G13810), *FMO1* (AT1G19250).

250

251 **Results**

252

253 **SA biosynthesis and signaling are required for CPK5-mediated defense marker gene** 254 **expression and enhanced pathogen resistance**

255 To address whether SA synthesis and SA signaling are required for CPK5-mediated
256 enhanced resistance to bacterial pathogens we performed crosses between the CPK5-
257 overexpressing line *CPK5-YFP#7* and defense mutants *ics1*, *eds5*, *npr1-1*, *pad4*, and *sard1*.
258 The phenotypic analysis revealed that reduced rosette diameter, necrosis, and crinkled
259 leaves, which are attributed to enhanced CPK5-activity in line #7, are no longer evident in
260 crossing lines in the absence of SA biosynthesis (*ics1*), transport (*eds5*) or signaling (*npr1*)
261 (Fig. **1a**). This phenotypic reversion is corroborated by the expression of *PR1*, indicative for
262 SA signaling, and *FRK1*, an flg22-responsive marker gene. *CPK5-YFP#7* is characterized by
263 constitutive high levels of *PR1* and *FRK1* (Dubiella *et al.*, 2013), whose basal gene
264 expression is reverted to Col-0 levels in the crossing lines (Fig. **1b**). Accordingly, in pathogen
265 growth assays with the virulent pathogen *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *tomato* (*Pst*) DC3000
266 enhanced bacterial resistance indicative for *CPK5-YFP#7* is compromised, and crossing
267 lines show either bacterial counts as the Col-0 wild type (x *npr1*) or become even more
268 susceptible than Col-0 (x *ics1*, x *eds5*) (Fig. **1c**). The expression and presence of active
269 CPK5-YFP protein kinase was confirmed by western blot and in-gel kinase assay as
270 exemplarily shown for crossing lines to *ics1* and *npr1* (Fig. **S1a,b**). These data indicate that
271 SA biosynthesis and SA downstream signaling are predominantly responsible for CPK5-
272 mediated defense reactions.

273 Likewise, *PAD4*, a key component and positive regulator of defense responses in the context
274 of ETI upon activation of TIR-NB-LRR proteins, is required for CPK5-dependent and SA-
275 mediated bacterial resistance. In line *pad4* x *CPK5-YFP#7*, the plant rosette diameter,
276 defense marker gene expression, and pathogen growth are reverted to Col-0 phenotypes
277 (Fig. 1). The crossing line *edr1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* shows reduced *PR1* and *FRK1* defense
278 expression compared to *CPK5-YFP#7*, but still elevated compared to Col-0, and retains its
279 increased higher basal resistance, accompanied by the phenotype of a small plant rosette
280 and the development of necrosis symptoms. Compared to an increased susceptibility of *ics1*
281 and *npr1* single mutants crossing lines show a certain benefit of enhanced CPK5-signaling
282 resulting in less bacterial growth (Fig. 1b). These data hint toward an additional contribution
283 of CPK5-triggered defense activation independent of *ICS1* and *NPR1*.

284

285 **The expression of SAR marker genes depends on CPK5**

286 We next assessed SAR marker gene expression *ALD1* and *FMO1* in a temporally and
287 spatially defined manner using a modified systemic signaling assay. Three local (proximal)
288 leaves were stimulated by either mock- (10 mM MgCl₂) or 200 nM flg22-infiltration. Samples
289 of systemic tissue were harvested two days after the local infiltration (2 dpi) and gene
290 expression was monitored via RT-qPCR. Enhanced CPK5 signaling in *CPK5-YFP#7* resulted
291 in high constitutive *ALD1* and *FMO1* expression, irrespectively of a mock or flg22 treatment
292 (Fig. 2a). Likewise, *NHL10*, a marker gene for rapid CPK5-dependent defense signal
293 propagation, is constitutively expressed in systemic tissue. In contrast, Col-0 and *CPK6-*
294 *YFP#23* do not display elevated SAR marker gene expression. Single mutant lines of *cpk5*
295 more than of *cpk6* show some reduction in basal and systemic *ALD1*, *FMO1* and *NHL10*
296 expression at 2 dpi even after the local flg22 stimulus (Fig. 2b). These data corroborate a
297 specific role of CPK5 over CPK6 in the regulation of temporal late and spatially distal
298 expression of defense genes.

299

300 **CPK5 contributes to priming**

301 To address whether the observed constitutive *ALD1* gene expression correlates with SAR
302 marker metabolite Pip accumulation we determined Pip levels by gas chromatography-mass
303 spectrometry (GC-MS) analysis in Col-0 and *CPK5-YFP#7* plants. A statistically significant
304 accumulation of Pip was measured in CPK5-overexpressing lines in the absence of
305 pathogen exposure (Fig. S2).

306 Next, we conducted SAR bacterial growth assays where plants were exposed to a priming
307 infection with avirulent *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *maculicola* ES 4326 *avrRpm1* (*Psm*
308 *avrRpm1*) in local (proximal) leaves, followed two days later by a triggering infection with
309 virulent *Psm* ES 4326 in distal leaves (Fig. 3 and scheme in Fig. S3). The reported benefit of

310 priming as reduced bacterial growth upon a secondary infection is observed in Col-0 plants
311 (Fig. 3, Fig. 4d, Fig. 5b) (Durrant & Dong, 2004; Mishina & Zeier, 2006; Fu & Dong, 2013;
312 Gruner *et al.*, 2013; Shah & Zeier, 2013). CPK5 overexpression leads to an overall increased
313 resistance towards bacterial pathogens due to CPK5-mediated, SA-dependent enhanced
314 basal resistance (Dubiella *et al.*, 2013) (Fig. 1c, Fig. 3b, Fig. 4c,d, Fig. 5b). Interestingly, this
315 basal level of CPK5-mediated resistance, already seen upon infection with the virulent strain,
316 mimics the SAR level in primed Col-0 plants. Remarkably, when *CPK5-YFP#7* is subjected
317 to a combination of priming and triggering infections, a status of hyper-resistance ('super-
318 priming') is observed (Fig. 3b, Fig. 4d, Fig. 5b). No alteration in priming capacity compared
319 to Col-0 is observed in plants overexpressing CPK6 (*CPK6-YFP#23*) (Fig. 3d). A loss of
320 priming capability is observed in *cpk5 cpk6* double mutant lines (Fig. 3e), whereas no
321 statistically significant reduction of priming occurs in respective *cpk5* and *cpk6* single mutant
322 lines (Fig. 3a,c,e). These data are consistent with previous reports in which single *cpk*
323 mutants did not show compromised resistance to infections with virulent bacterial pathogens
324 (Boudsocq *et al.*, 2010).

325

326 **CPK5-mediated priming is dependent on *ALD1/FMO1*-signaling**

327 We next generated crosses between *ald1* and *fmo1* mutant lines, respectively, and *CPK5-*
328 *YFP#7* and double homozygous plants were selected. Both crosses, *ald1* x *CPK5-YFP#7*
329 and *fmo1* x *CPK5-YFP#7*, no longer show the reduced growth phenotype manifested in a
330 smaller rosette, disordered leaf shape and lesion development caused by CPK5-YFP
331 overexpression (Fig. 4a). Also, basal expression of marker genes *ICS1* and *NHL10*, both
332 elevated in *CPK5-YFP#7*, are reverted to Col-0 wild type level in the crosses (Fig. 4b).

333 In standard bacterial growth assays using *Pst* DC3000 both single mutant lines, *ald1* and
334 *fmo1*, are more susceptible to bacterial pathogens compared to wild type. In crosses, the
335 enhanced resistance of *CPK5-YFP#7* is lost. Thus bacterial growth in *ald1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* is
336 reverted to Col-0 wild type level and in *fmo1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* bacterial growth resembles that
337 of the *fmo1* single mutant (Fig. 4c). These data demonstrate that full CPK5-mediated
338 resistance depends on *ALD1* and *FMO1*.

339 To address the dependency of CPK5-mediated SAR on *ALD1* and *FMO1*, priming
340 experiments were conducted in temporal and special resolution as described above. Priming
341 as observed in Col-0 and the 'super-priming' phenotype of *CPK5-YFP#7* was entirely absent
342 in *ald1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* and *fmo1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* (Fig. 4d). Instead, inoculated plants showed
343 increased susceptibility like un-primed Col-0 or became even more susceptible (*fmo1* x
344 *CPK5-YFP#7*), consistent with FMO1 enzyme catalyzing the reversion of SAR marker
345 metabolite Pip to NHP during SAR (Hartmann *et al.*, 2018).

346

347 **CPK5-mediated priming depends on *SARD1***

348 We next assessed whether CPK5-mediated ‘super-priming’ requires SAR key transcription
349 factor *SARD1*. Our expression analysis revealed a high constitutive level of *SARD1* transcript
350 in line *CPK5-YFP#7* compared to Col-0. *SARD1* transcript accumulation is absent in priming-
351 deficient crosses *ald1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* and *fmo1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* and also in the *ald1* and
352 *fmo1* single mutants whereas basal *SARD1* expression is slightly reduced in *cpk5* compared
353 to Col-0 (Fig. 5a).

354 To investigate whether *SARD1* is required for CPK5-mediated priming or ‘super-priming’, a
355 cross between *sard1-1* and *CPK5-YFP#7* was generated and double homozygous plants
356 were analyzed. In the crossed lines, local and systemic *ALD1* and *FMO1* gene expression at
357 2 dpi, which is constitutively elevated in *CPK5-YFP#7*, is entirely absent (Fig. 5c). The same
358 is observed for *PR1* and *FRK1* (Fig. 1b). Remarkably, in *sard1-1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* the
359 systemic *ALD1* and *FMO1* expression is low in unstimulated conditions (resembling Col-0),
360 but upon flg22-stimulation both gene transcripts accumulate to high levels comparable to
361 those of the CPK5-overexpressing line. These data correlate with the phenotype of *sard1-1* x
362 *CPK5-YFP#7* plants, which display a reduced rosette diameter and lesion development
363 compared to *CPK5-YFP#7* (Fig. 1a), and which also show enhanced resistance to the
364 virulent bacterial pathogen *Pst* DC3000 (Fig. 1c).

365 Priming experiments for bacterial growth in SAR reveal that *sard1-1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* plants
366 are still able to repress bacterial growth to the level of the CPK5-overexpression line.
367 However, in the absence of *SARD1*, these plants are unable to induce ‘super-priming’
368 observed in the CPK5-overexpressing line (Fig. 5b). Thus, ectopic activation of CPK5
369 throughout the entire plant induces immunity against bacterial pathogens. Although defense
370 is already activated by CPK5-YFP in distal leaves, an additional *SARD1*-dependent signal is
371 relayed. These data suggest that CPK5 signaling mediates both, rapid local and long-term
372 distal resistance responses, to restrict pathogen growth. *SARD1*, a transcriptional regulator
373 whose gene itself is induced late during pathogen infection, is required only for the latter.
374 Whereas in *sard1-1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* CPK5-mediated enhanced basal resistance is unaltered,
375 plants miss the late additional resistance benefit of having been primed.

376

377 **CPK5 is a highly responsive calcium-activated enzyme**

378 The calcium concentration at which a CDPK displays half-maximal phosphorylating kinase
379 activity, $K_{50} [Ca^{2+}]$, reflects an isoform-specific biochemical parameter and differs even
380 between close homologs within the CDPK gene family. A low K_{50} for calcium is indicative for
381 an enzyme that has adopted its catalytically active conformation at low concentrations of
382 calcium. In standard *in vitro* kinase assays with recombinant enzymes toward synthetic
383 peptide substrate Syntide 2 the $K_{50} [Ca^{2+}]$ for CPK5 is as low as ~94 nM and for CPK6 ~186

384 nM (Fig. **6a,c**). The intracellular calcium concentration in unstimulated plants is reported to
385 ~100 nM (Stael *et al.*, 2012; Costa *et al.*, 2018). Thus, at the resting cytoplasmic calcium
386 concentration CPK5 but not yet CPK6 activity is already highly responsive to subtle
387 concentration changes. A likewise low K50 [Ca^{2+}] is observed with peptide substrate
388 encompassing S148 from the CPK5 *in vivo* phosphorylation target RBOHD (Dubiella *et al.*,
389 2013; Kadota *et al.*, 2014) (Fig. **6b,d**). Likewise, similar low K50 [Ca^{2+}] is determined for
390 fusion protein CPK5-YFP for both substrates (Fig. **S5**).

391 Remarkably, the CPK5-YFP fusion protein displays higher kinase activity at low [Ca^{2+}]
392 concentrations compared to CPK5 in a rapid kinetic assay (Fig. **6e**). This is consistent with
393 an interpretation that CPK5-YFP undergoes more rapidly (and at lower cytoplasmic calcium
394 concentrations) a calcium-induced conformational change to adapt and stabilize the active
395 conformation compared to the native enzyme. In accordance with this analysis CPK5-YFP
396 transgenic plants display constitutive biochemical (in-gel kinase) activity, and a further
397 increase in kinase activity was induced upon flg22 treatment of these plants (Dubiella *et al.*,
398 2013).

399

400 **Discussion**

401 Systemic acquired resistance represents a status of preparedness of the entire plant foliage
402 to a broad spectrum of microbial pathogens induced by a preceding infection at a local site.
403 This preparedness is corroborated by more rapid and vigorous activation of defense
404 responses. Because long-term defense activation may come at the cost of growth retardation
405 and a delay of plant development, the decision to switch in the SAR mode has to be tightly
406 controlled. SA plays a pivotal role in plant immunity, and SA accumulation is undoubtedly a
407 key executor to establish and maintain SAR. However, SA is not considered to be the one
408 and only signal molecule to be transported through the plant. Thus, the switch to SAR
409 requires an information relay of the 'having been attacked' perception from local to distal
410 plant sites as well as the initiation and maintenance of an SA-accumulating defense loop that
411 manifests a 'being prepared when it happens again' information (Hake & Romeis, 2018).

412

413 **CPK5 signaling triggers *SARD1*-dependent SAR and mediates 'super-priming'**

414 Plants overexpressing CPK5-YFP show increased basal resistance to the virulent bacterial
415 pathogen *Pst*. CPK5 signaling-mediated immunity is thereby dependent on SA. In crosses of
416 the *CPK5-YFP#7* line to mutants *ics1*, *eds5*, *pad4*, and *npr1-1* implicated in SA biosynthesis
417 and signaling in PTI and ETI, CPK5-dependent defense marker gene expression and
418 resistance to virulent *Pst* is compromised and plant growth is reverted to wild type (Fig. **1**).
419 CPK5 can, therefore, be placed upstream of PAD4 and the cascade of SA-dependent
420 defense reactions.

421 Here we show that CPK5-YFP overexpressing plants constitutively express SAR marker
422 genes *ALD1* and *FMO1* at late time points in distal leaves, and these plants also accumulate
423 Pip (Fig. 2, Fig. S2). Plants of enhanced CPK5-signaling contain therefore all essential
424 components for a Pip- and SA-dependent signaling amplification loop via *ALD1/FMO1/ICS1*.
425 Consistently, CPK5-YFP overexpressing lines show a 'super-priming' phenotype of
426 enhanced bacterial resistance in the context of SAR (Fig. 3, 4, 5). Priming and 'super-
427 priming' is entirely lost in crosses *ald1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* and *fmo1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* (Fig. 4d),
428 and the benefit of enhanced CPK5-signaling is lost in both, basal and systemic resistance
429 (Fig. 4c,d).

430 Additionally, enhanced CPK5-signaling results in a constitutive accumulation of *SARD1*
431 transcript, validating the constitutive high *ALD1* and *FMO1* expression levels in these lines
432 even in absence of any pathogen-related stimulation. Comparably low systemic *SARD1*
433 expression and low *ALD1* and *FMO1* transcript levels are detected in *cpk5* (Fig. 2b). Plants
434 that overexpress *SARD1* are reported to be more resistant to bacterial infection in basal
435 immunity and to accumulate SA (Zhang *et al.*, 2010), similar to what is observed for CPK5-
436 overexpressing lines. Interestingly, high constitutive transcript levels of *ALD1* and *FMO1* in
437 *CPK5-YFP#7* are reverted in a *sard1* background (Fig. 5c), mimicking the *sard1* single
438 mutant (Sun *et al.*, 2015). Remarkably, upon an flg22 immune stimulus, systemic *ALD1* and
439 *FMO1* expression at 2 dpi is induced to a comparably high level as seen for enhanced
440 CPK5-signaling in *CPK5-YFP#7* (Fig. 5c). These data suggest that a local pathogen attack
441 induces basal resistance which includes CPK5, CPK6, and in case other CPKs. In addition,
442 CPK5 participates in signal propagation and in the control of a distal switch into SAR. Yet, in
443 the absence of *SARD1*, SAR cannot be maintained.

444 This interpretation is mirrored by SAR bacterial growth phenotypes of the respective crossing
445 lines. Plants of *ald1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* and *fmo1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* lost both, the CPK5-mediated
446 enhanced basal resistance and systemic priming (Fig. 4c,d). In *sard1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* the
447 enhanced CPK5-dependent basal resistance from *CPK5-YFP#7* is retained, but a memory of
448 'having been attacked', the *SARD1*-dependent additional (super-) priming which is
449 corroborated by a constitutive *ALD1* and *FMO1* expression, is lost (Fig. 5b). These data link
450 CPK5-signaling with *SARD1* function, and both are required to mount and maintain the
451 primed plant state manifesting the immune memory. *sard1* plants still respond to flg22 with
452 local and systemic immune reactions and thus are able to synthesize and propagate an
453 immune signal. However, the ultimate switch into SAR through a SA- and Pip-dependent
454 self-containing amplification loop of *ALD1/FMO1/ICS1* cannot be accomplished in the
455 absence of *SARD1*.

456 *SARD1* is a key regulatory transcription factor that binds to the promoters of a large number
457 of genes, for which a positive or negative role in systemic plant resistance can be attributed,

458 including *ICS1*. Its expression is tightly controlled by positive and negative regulation in a
459 temporally and spatially manner and occurs late in systemic tissue (Wang *et al.*, 2011; Zheng
460 *et al.*, 2015; Sun *et al.*, 2018; Zhou *et al.*, 2018). It is unclear yet, whether *SARD1* expression
461 is also controlled by post-transcriptional mechanisms that may directly impact *SARD1*-
462 dependent SAR, for example by phosphorylation through CPK5.

463

464 **CPK5 links the calcium-regulatory network with immune signaling**

465 The role of calcium-signaling, well characterized during local PAMP-induced immune
466 reactions, is less clear in late systemic signaling and the switch to SAR. Regulatory calcium-
467 binding proteins such as CMLs and AGP5, in particular, those that are under transcriptional
468 control of *SARD1/CBP60g* (Truman & Glazebrook, 2012; Aldon *et al.*, 2018), may depend on
469 temporal and spatial distinct intracellular calcium conditions from those of initiating local
470 calcium burst. Interestingly, calmodulin-dependent transcriptional regulators CAMTA3 and
471 CBP60a have been described as negative regulators in the control of long-term
472 transcriptional reprogramming of defense genes (Galon *et al.*, 2008; Truman & Glazebrook,
473 2012; Sun *et al.*, 2015). These data implicate that the intracellular calcium status is essential
474 also in the control of SAR.

475 CPK5 and CPK6 classify to the CPDK subfamily I and comply with a consensus CDPK
476 enzyme with 4 canonical EF-hand motifs (Cheng *et al.*, 2002). In biochemical assays the
477 catalytic activities of CPK5 and CPK6 are calcium-dependent. A remarkably low K50 [Ca^{2+}]
478 of 93 nM was determined for CPK5 and of 186 nM for CPK6 (Fig. **6a,c**). These data indicate
479 that in particular CPK5 is most sensitive to subtle [Ca^{2+}] changes around the intracellular
480 resting calcium concentration. Thus, this low K50 [Ca^{2+}] may explain why CPK5 (but not
481 CPK6) is part of a signal propagation mechanism from local to distal sites via a
482 CPK5/RBOHD-driven auto-activation circuit (Dubiella *et al.*, 2013), why overexpression of
483 CPK5 (but not of CPK6) induces SAR, and why CPK5 (but not CPK4, CPK6, and CPK11) is
484 required for defense responses in autoimmune mutants such as in *exo70B1* (Liu *et al.*,
485 2017). Thus, CPK6 (here: K50 [Ca^{2+}] of 186 nM) and other CPKs such as CPK4 and CPK11
486 (reported K50 [Ca^{2+}] of ~ 3 μM and ~ 4 μM , respectively (Boudsocq *et al.*, 2012)) may
487 become fully activated and contribute to defense activation upon an intracellular calcium
488 burst for example as consequence of a direct local pathogen attack or exposure to PAMP
489 flg22. But these enzymes may not be suited to decode subtle calcium changes when
490 propagating a signal or activating SAR in distal tissue. CPK6, the phylogenetically closest
491 homolog to CPK5, has predominantly been implicated in guard cell function during the
492 control of the stomatal aperture (Mori *et al.*, 2006; Brandt *et al.*, 2012; Ye *et al.*, 2013). The
493 CPK6 overexpressing line *CPK6-YFP#23* does neither show constitutive SAR marker gene
494 expression nor enhanced SAR towards bacterial pathogens (Fig. **2a, 3d**). Consistently, ROS-

495 generation driving immune signal propagation has been shown to be compromised in *cpk5*
496 but not in *cpk6* (Dubiella *et al.*, 2013).

497

498 **CPK5 protein amount and catalytic activity contribute to the manifestation of priming**

499 The underlying mechanism that manifests SAR is a matter of ongoing research and the
500 accumulation and activation of signaling molecules, the modifications at the chromatin level
501 and at the transcriptome may all contribute to immune memory (Conrath *et al.*, 2015; Hilker
502 *et al.*, 2015; Martinez-Medina *et al.*, 2016; Reimer-Michalski & Conrath, 2016; Hake &
503 Romeis, 2018).

504 A role of mitogen-activated protein (MAP) kinases MPK3 and MPK6 has been demonstrated
505 in chemically-induced resistance. Priming correlated with enhanced *MPK* transcript levels
506 and the accumulation of (yet inactive) MPK3 and MPK6 proteins. Exposure to a triggering
507 stimulus not only led to enhanced MPK biochemical activation but also to increased MPK-
508 dependent downstream signaling, resulting in more prominent defense reactions.
509 Consistently, priming responses were compromised or lost in mutant lines of *mpk3* and *mpk6*
510 (Beckers *et al.*, 2009). MPK3 and MPK6 were shown to contribute to SAR via an *ALD1*-
511 pipecolic acid regulatory loop (Y. Wang *et al.*, 2018). Furthermore, an interplay between MPK
512 and CPK signaling has been demonstrated for innate immune signaling in PTI (Boudsocq *et al.*,
513 2010), where exemplary defense gene activation was shown to be either MPK-specific,
514 or CPK-specific, or to be controlled through joint MPK- and CPK-signaling. CPK5 signaling
515 contributed to the activation of transcriptional regulators WRKY8, 28, and 48 upstream of
516 WRKY46 and CPK5 phosphorylates recombinant WRKY28 and WRKY48 proteins (Gao *et al.*,
517 2013). Thus, it is conceivable that transcriptional regulators downstream of protein kinase
518 signaling become increasingly essential in the transition from ETI to SAR. Interestingly, Chip-
519 Seq analysis revealed promoter sequences recognized by SARD1 in primed plants. Among
520 SARD1-binding sequences have been identified promoters of signaling genes *MPK3* and
521 *CPK4*, in addition to promoters of genes of the SA/Pip amplification loop (*ALD1/FMO1/ICS1*),
522 and of promoters of genes mediating general SA-dependent PTI and ETI defense signaling
523 (*EDS1*, *PAD4*, *NPR1*) (Sun *et al.*, 2015). These data corroborate that the accumulation of
524 (potentially not yet fully active) signaling proteins such as MPKs and CPKs are part of the
525 repertoire to manifest a primed plant status.

526 In the CPK5-overexpressing line *CPK5-YFP#7* the enzyme accumulates to a high protein
527 amount that is even stronger in line CPK5-YFP # 2 (Dubiella *et al.*, 2013). Additionally, the
528 CPK5-YFP fusion protein is biochemically more active at a given low cytoplasmic [Ca²⁺] level
529 than native CPK5, which correlates with an observed constitutive biochemical
530 phosphorylation activity of CPK5-YFP in these lines (Dubiella *et al.*, 2013). Taken together,
531 our data are consistent with the interpretation that CPK5-YFP mimics a pre-formed

532 ('primed'), phosphorylation competent state (synonymous to a so-called 'protein mark'),
533 which in dependency of *SARD1* is responsible for 'super-priming'.

534 Our data are in accordance with a model where CPK5 guards the cytoplasmic calcium status
535 in resting cells facilitated by its low K50 [Ca^{2+}] (Fig. 7). Following a primary pathogen attack
536 and subsequent rise in cytoplasmic [Ca^{2+}], CPK5 predominantly acquires its open
537 conformation, and local defenses and basal immunity are established, in case in joint
538 function with other locally activated CPKs. In ETI, the information of 'having been attacked' is
539 spread via a CPK5-mediated calcium/ROS propagation mechanism and meets the command
540 of 'having to defend' mediated through the synthesis and accumulation of SA and Pip / NHP
541 defense metabolites, which in the presence of *SARD1* lead to a switch into and maintenance
542 of SAR in systemic plant tissue. It is conceivable that during the immune memory CPK5
543 adopts a primed enzyme state, likely manifested through a distinct intramolecular pattern of
544 protein phosphorylation combined with a change in protein conformation that allows a more
545 rapid enzyme transition to the fully active state upon a triggering stimulus, for example during
546 a secondary pathogen attack (Fig. 7).

547 Thus, CPK5-signaling, already required for the spatial defense signal spread into the entire
548 foliage of a plant, may also contribute to the temporal switch - via the linkage of calcium
549 signaling to the activation of *SARD1* – to induce (reversible) SAR. Whether *SARD1* is solely
550 activated on the transcriptional level or also on the post-translational level, e.g. upon direct
551 interaction and phosphorylation of *SARD1* protein through CPK5, remains to be shown.

552

553 **Acknowledgments**

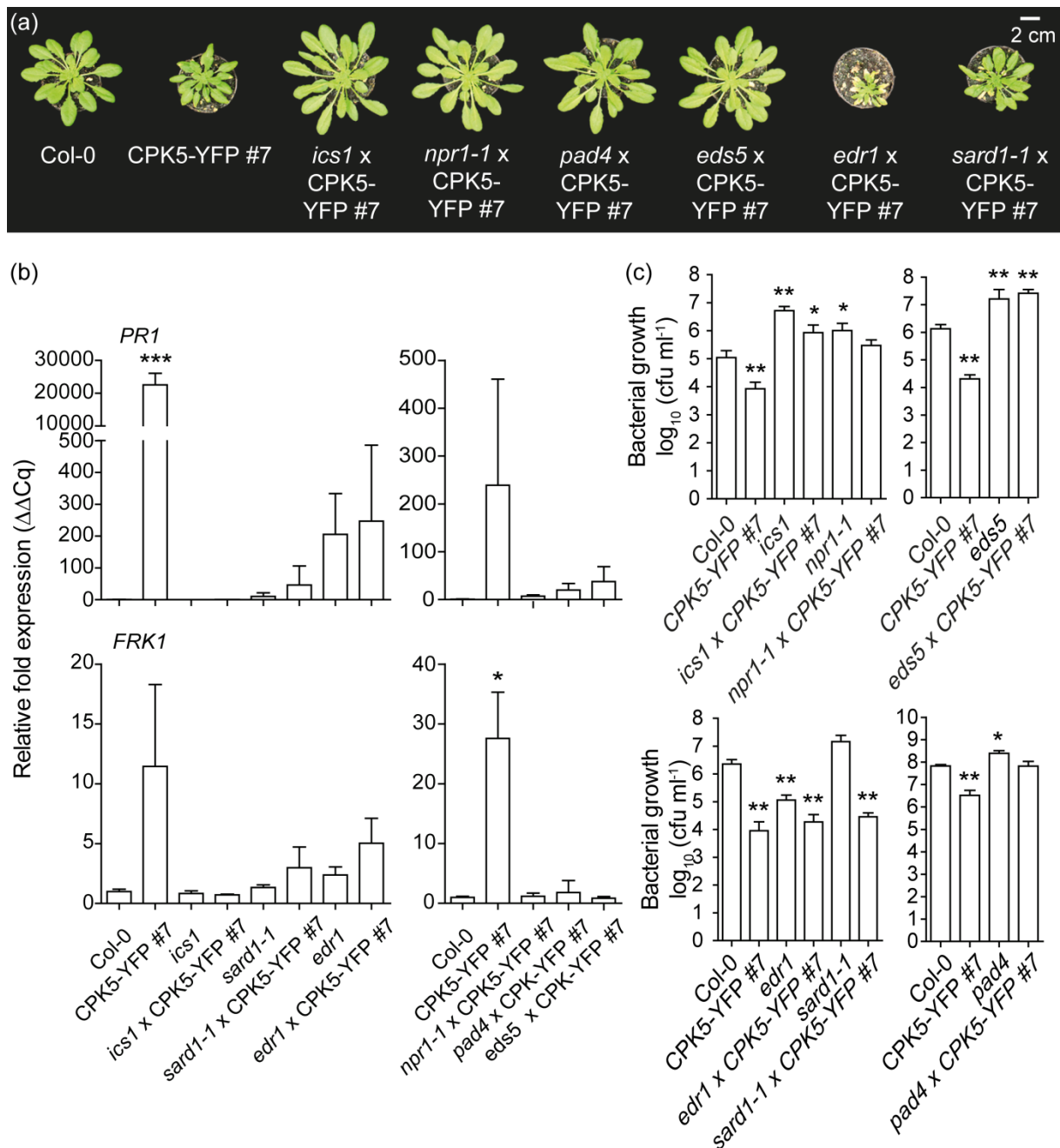
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555 Research Centre SFB973 to T.R. We thank Jennifer Bortlik for the transformation of
556 *Arabidopsis* with the CPK6-YFP construct and Katharina Hake for critical reading and
557 discussion of the manuscript. *Psm* and *Psm avrRpm1* strains were kindly provided by Jürgen
558 Zeier (University Düsseldorf), the *cpk5 cpk6* double mutant line was kindly provided by Marie
559 Boudsocq (Institute of Plant Sciences Paris Saclay).

560

561 **Author contributions**

562 T.G., T.R. conceived and designed the research. T.G., S.S., F-P.S., B.C. performed
563 experiments. T.G., B.C., F-P.S., T.R. analyzed data. T.G. and T.R. wrote the manuscript.

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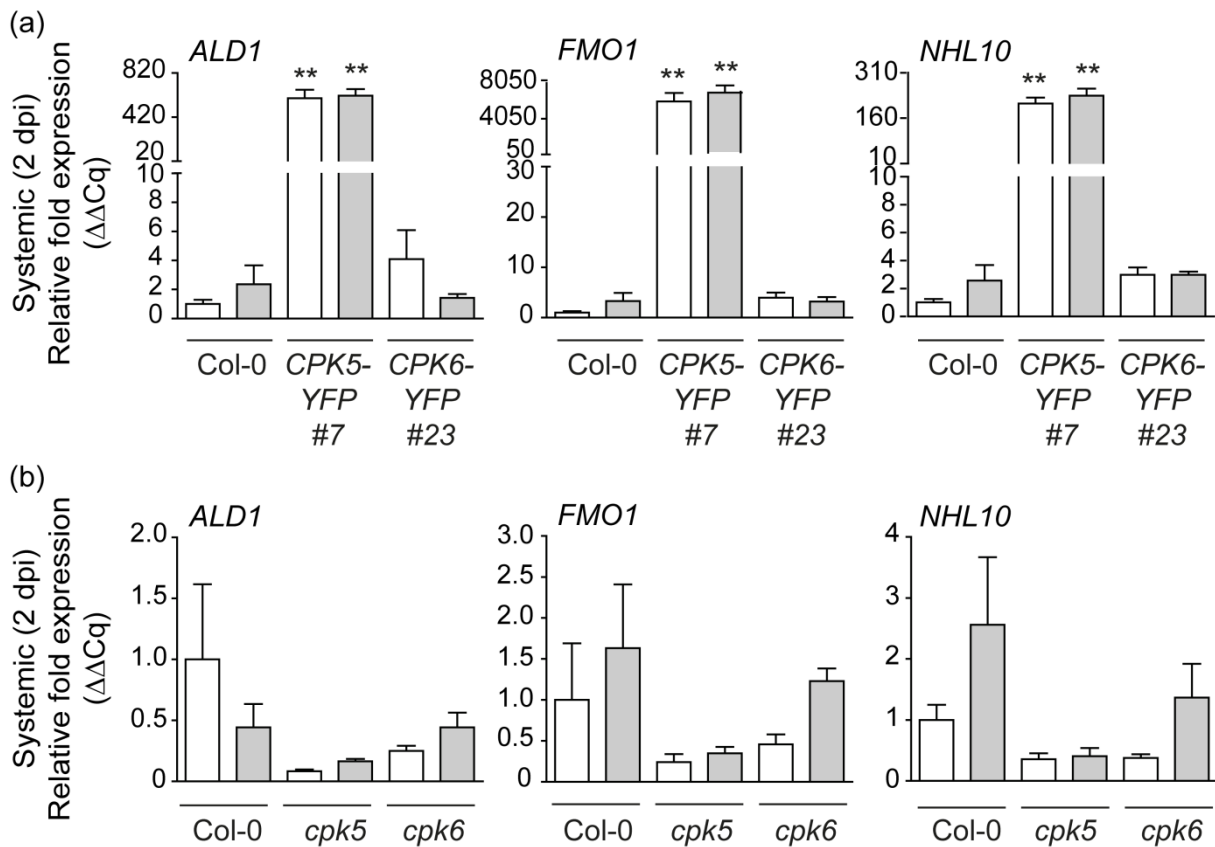


565

566 **Fig. 1** CPK5 signaling-dependent basal pathogen resistance requires SA-biosynthesis and
 567 signaling but is independent on *SARD1*.

568 (a) Six-week-old plants of Col-0, CPK5-YFP#7, and of derived crosses with *ics1*, *npr1*, *pad4*,
 569 *eds5*, *edr1*, and *sard1*. Scale = 2 cm. (b) Basal *PR1* and *FRK1* gene expression of plants as
 570 shown in (a) was analyzed by RT-qPCR. Bars represent mean value \pm SEM of three
 571 biological replicates. The asterisks indicate statistically significant differences in comparison
 572 to Col-0 (one-way ANOVA; Dunnett posttest; ***, $P < 0.001$; *, $P < 0.05$). (c) Six-week-old
 573 plants as shown in (a) were inoculated with *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *tomato* (*Pst*)
 574 DC3000. Bacterial numbers were monitored 0 dpi (data not shown) and 3 dpi. Bars represent
 575 mean value \pm SEM of 12 biological replicates. The asterisks indicate statistically significant

576 differences in comparison to Col-0 (one-way ANOVA; Dunnett posttest; **, $P < 0.01$; *,
 577 $P < 0.05$). The experiment was repeated three times with similar results.
 578

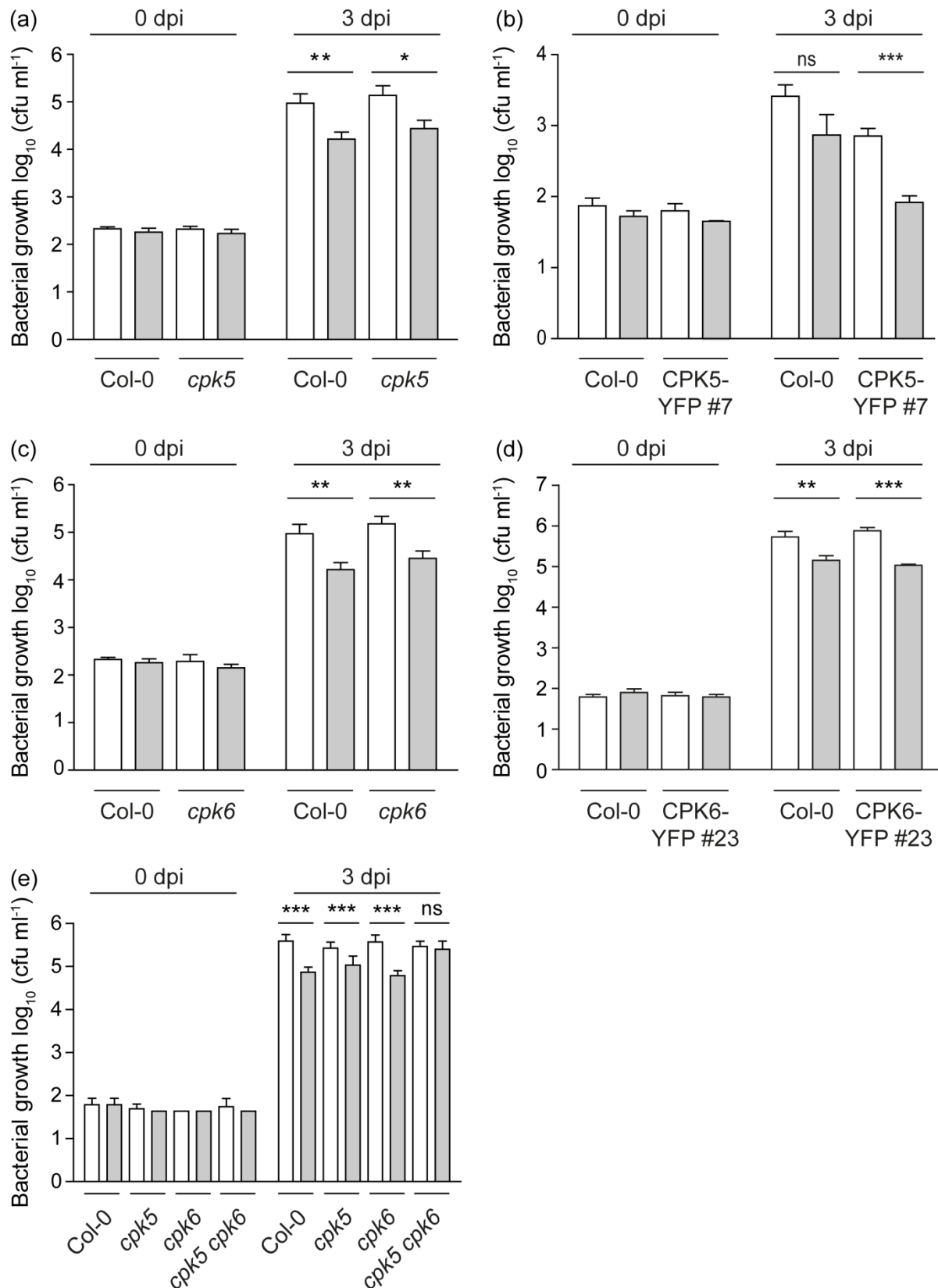


579

580 **Fig. 2** CPK5 but not CPK6 is involved in late systemic defense signaling.

581 (a) Enhanced CPK5-signaling results in constitutive systemic expression of *ALD1*, *FMO1*,
 582 and *NHL10* at 2 dpi. Three local leaves of six-week-old plants of Col-0, *CPK5-YFP#7*, and
 583 *CPK6-YFP#23* were infiltrated with 10 mM $MgCl_2$ (mock/white bars) or 200 nM flg22 (grey
 584 bars). After two days, three systemic leaves were harvested and gene expression was
 585 analyzed by qRT-PCR. Bars represent mean value \pm SEM of three biological replicates. The
 586 asterisks indicate statistically significant differences in comparison to Col-0 mock (one-way
 587 ANOVA; Dunnett posttest; **, $P < 0.01$). The experiment was repeated with similar results. (b)
 588 Systemic defense gene expression at 2 dpi is reduced in *cpk5*. Col-0, *cpk5*, and *cpk6* leaves
 589 were analyzed as described in (a). Bars represent mean value \pm SEM of three biological
 590 replicates. The experiment was repeated with similar results.

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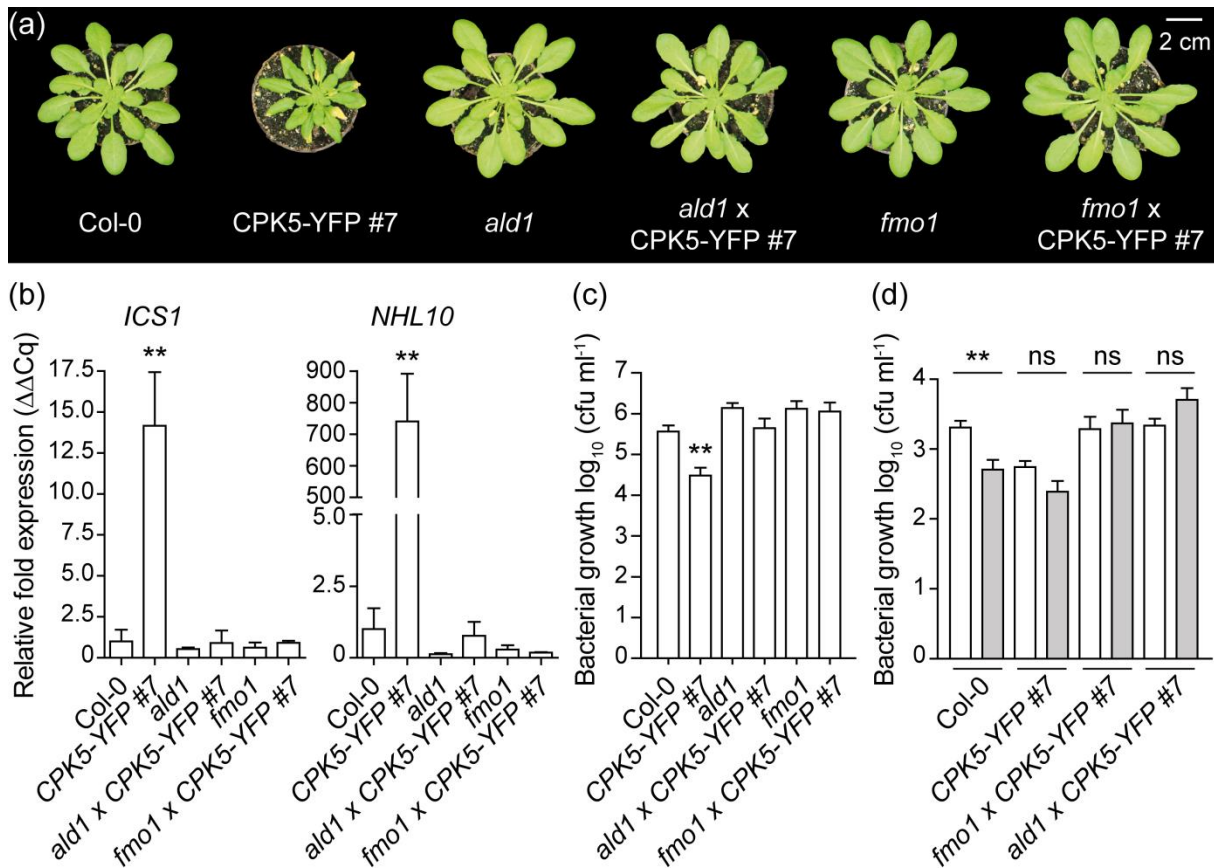
593 **Fig. 3** Enhanced CPK5-signaling triggers immune priming.

594 (a-e) Six-week-old plants of *Col-0*, *cpk5* (a), *CPK5-YFP#7* (b), *cpk6* (c), *CPK6-YFP#23* (d),

595 and *cpk5 cpk6* (e) were subjected to a priming infection by avirulent bacterial strain

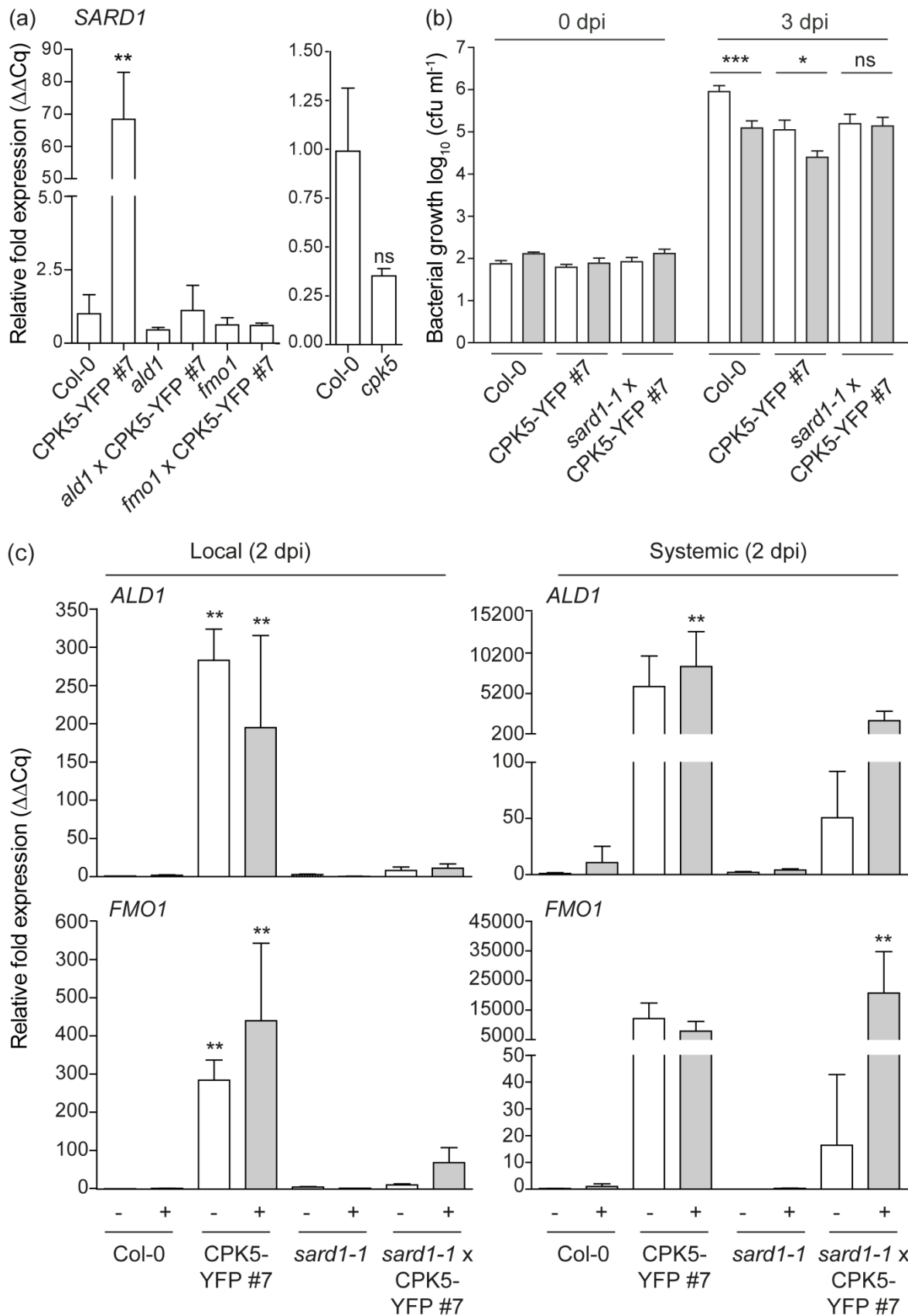
596 *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *maculicola* ES 4326 *avrRpm1* (*Psm avrRpm1*) (grey bars) or a

597 mock control (10 mM MgCl₂) (white bars) in local leaves. After two days, distal leaves were
 598 subjected to triggering infection with virulent strain *Psm* ES 4326. Bacterial numbers of the
 599 triggering strain were monitored 0 dpi and 3 dpi. Bars represent mean value ± SEM of 12
 600 biological replicates. The asterisks indicate statistically significant differences in comparison
 601 to mock at 3 dpi (student's t-test; ***, $P < 0.001$; **, $P < 0.01$; *, $P < 0.05$; ns, not significant). The
 602 experiments were repeated three times with similar results.
 603



604
 605 **Fig. 4** CPK5-mediated resistance is dependent on *ALD1* and *FMO1*.
 606 (a) Six-week-old plants of Col-0, *CPK5-YFP#7*, and derived crosses with *ald1* and *fmo1*.
 607 Scale = 2 cm. (b) Basal *ICS1* and *NHL10* gene expression of plants as shown in (a) was
 608 analyzed by RT-qPCR. Bars represent mean value ± SEM of three biological replicates. The
 609 asterisks indicate statistically significant differences in comparison to Col-0 (one-way
 610 ANOVA; Dunnett posttest; **, $P < 0.01$). (c) Six-week-old plants as shown in (a) were
 611 inoculated with *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *tomato* (*Pst*) DC3000. Bacterial numbers were
 612 monitored 0 dpi (data not shown) and 3 dpi. Bars represent mean value ± SEM of 12
 613 biological replicates. The asterisks indicate statistically significant differences in comparison
 614 to Col-0 (one-way ANOVA; Dunnett posttest; **, $P < 0.01$). The experiment was repeated
 615 three times with similar results. (d) Six-week-old plants as shown in (a) were subjected to
 616 priming infection with avirulent bacterial strain *Psm avrRpm1* (*Pseudomonas syringae* pv.
 617 *maculicola* (*Psm*) ES 4326 *avrRpm1*) or mock control (10 mM MgCl₂) in local leaves. After

618 two days, distal leaves were subjected to triggering infection with virulent strain *Psm* ES
619 4326. Bacterial numbers of the triggering strain were monitored 0 dpi (data not shown) and 3
620 dpi. Bars represent mean value \pm SEM of 12 biological replicates. The asterisks indicate
621 statistically significant differences in comparison to mock at 3 dpi (student's t-test; **, $P < 0.01$;
622 ns, not significant). The experiment was repeated with similar results.
623



624

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Fig. 5 CPK5-dependent 'super-priming' requires *SARD1*.

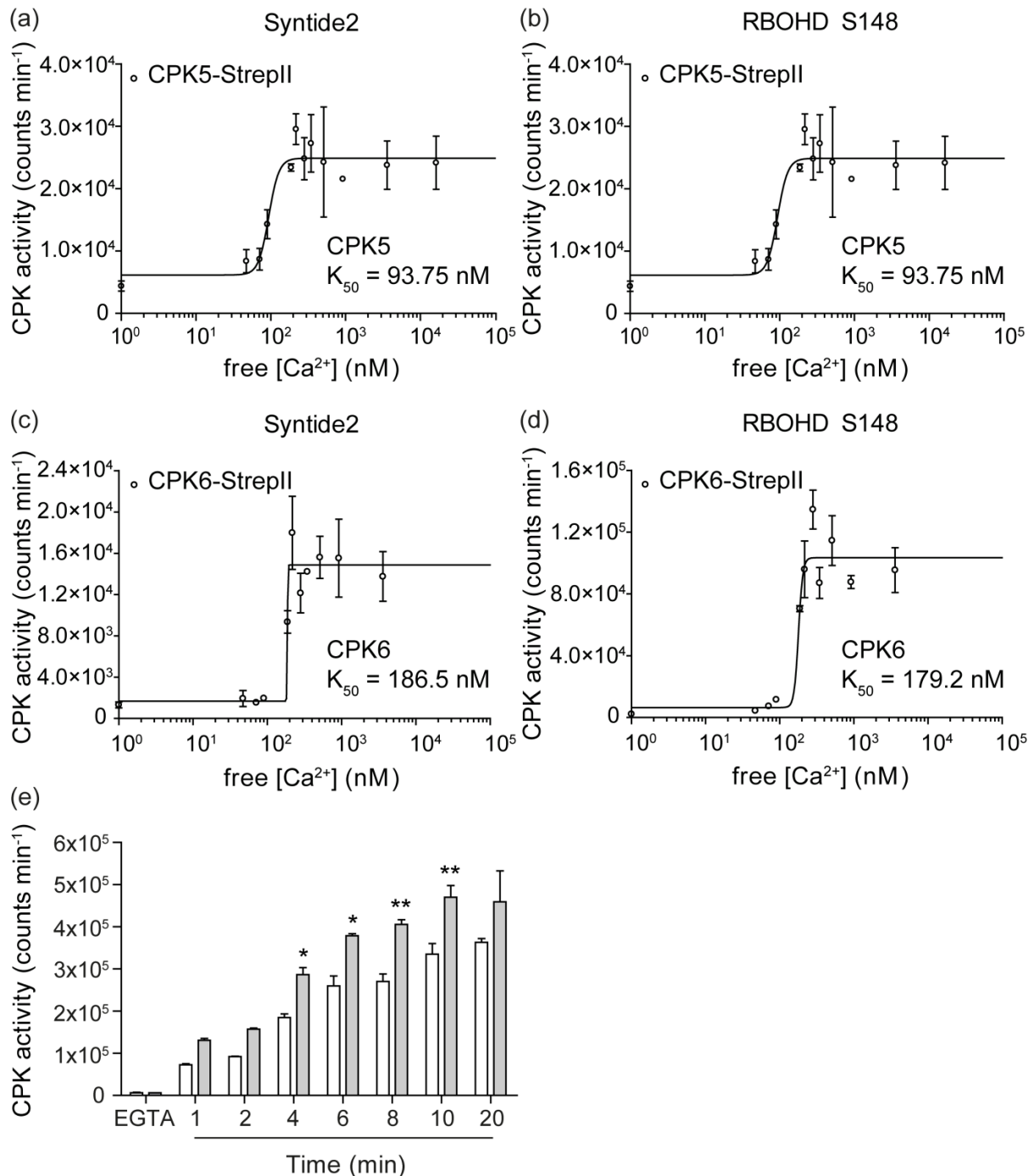
626

(a) Basal *SARD1* gene expression in six-week-old plants of Col-0, *CPK5-YFP#7*, and derived

627

crosses with *ald1* and *fmo1* (left panel) and *cpk5* (right panel), respectively, were analyzed

628 by RT-qPCR. Bars represent mean value \pm SEM of three biological replicates. The asterisks
629 indicate statistically significant differences in comparison to Col-0 (one-way ANOVA; Dunnett
630 posttest; **, $P < 0.01$; ns, not significant). **(b)** Six-week-old plants of Col-0, *CPK5-YFP#7*, and
631 *sard1-1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* were subjected to priming and triggering infection as described in
632 (Fig. 3 (b)). Bacterial numbers were monitored 0 dpi (data not shown) and 3 dpi of the
633 triggering strain. Bars represent mean value \pm SEM of 12 biological replicates. The asterisks
634 indicate statistically significant differences in comparison to mock at 3 dpi (student's t-test; **, $P < 0.01$;
635 *, $P < 0.05$; ns, not significant). The experiment was repeated with similar results. **(c)**
636 Local and systemic *ALD1* and *FMO1* expression of Col-0, *CPK5-YFP#7*, *sard1-1* and *sard1-*
637 *1* x *CPK5-YFP#7* was analyzed by qRT-PCR 2 dpi after mock (white bars) or flg22 (grey
638 bars) stimulus as described in Fig. 2 (a). Bars represent mean value \pm SEM of three
639 biological replicates. The asterisks indicate statistically significant differences in comparison
640 to Col-0 mock (one-way ANOVA; Dunnett posttest; **, $P < 0.01$). The experiment was
641 repeated with similar results.
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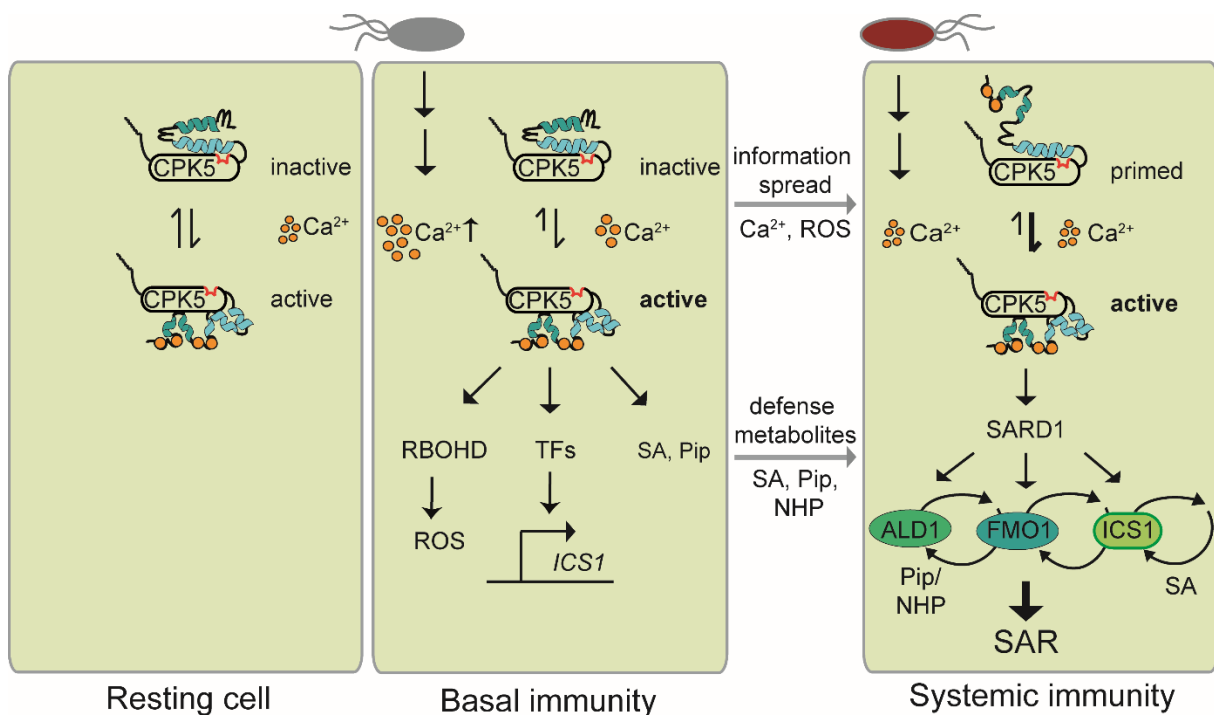


643

644 **Fig. 6** CPK5 displays high kinase activity at low Ca²⁺-concentrations.

645 (a), (b) Ca²⁺-dependent protein kinase activity of CPK5-StrepII. Kinase activity of affinity-
 646 purified recombinant protein CPK5-StrepII (25 nM) was analyzed in an *in vitro* kinase assay
 647 toward 10 μM substrate peptide Syntide 2 (a) and RBOHD S148 (10 aa peptide
 648 encompassing S148) (b), respectively, for 20 min in a series of increasing Ca²⁺
 649 concentrations as indicated and K50 was determined. Data represent mean value ± SEM of
 650 two technical replicates. The experiment was repeated with similar results. (c), (d) Ca²⁺-
 651 dependent protein kinase activity of CPK6-StrepII. Kinase activity of affinity-purified
 652 recombinant protein CPK6-StrepII (25 nM) was analyzed in an *in vitro* kinase assay toward

653 Syntide 2 (c) and RBOHD S148 (d), respectively, as described for (a), (b). (e) Ca^{2+} -
 654 dependent protein kinase activity of affinity-purified recombinant CPK5-StrepII or CPK5-YFP-
 655 StrepII (25 nM protein) was assessed over a fast time kinetic from 0 to 20 min in an *in vitro*
 656 kinase assay with 10 μM substrate peptide RBOHD S148 without calcium or at a fixed
 657 saturating Ca^{2+} concentration of 0.5 μM . Bars represent mean value \pm SEM of two technical
 658 replicates. The asterisks indicate statistically significant differences of CPK5-YFP-StrepII in
 659 comparison to CPK5-StrepII (two-way ANOVA; Bonferroni posttest; *, $P < 0.05$; **, $P < 0.01$).
 660 The experiment was repeated with similar results.
 661



662 **Fig. 7** Scheme of Ca^{2+} -dependent CPK5 activation and function in immune responses,
 663 priming, and SAR.
 664

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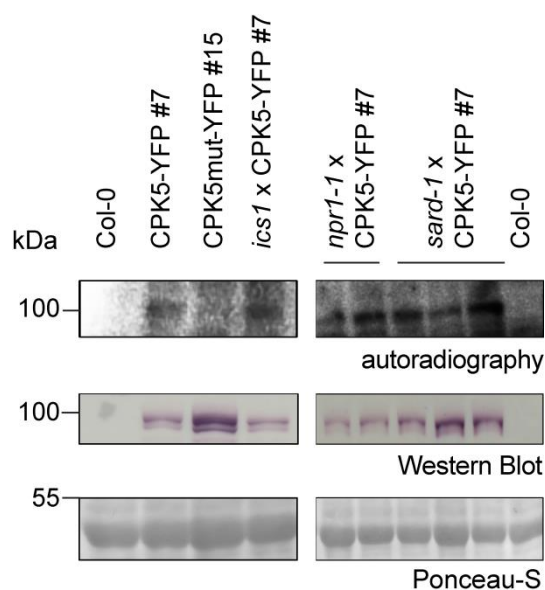
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844

845 Supporting Information

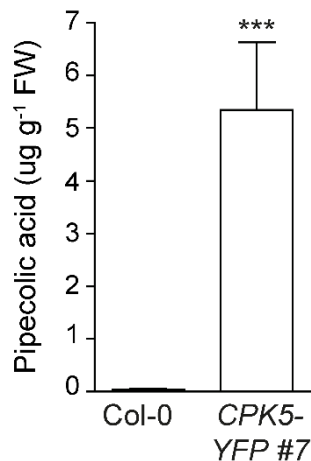


846

847 **Fig. S1 CPK5-YFP is expressed and retains constitutive protein kinase activity in**
848 **crossed lines.** Total protein of two-week-old seedlings of Col-0, CPK5-YFP #7, CPK5mut-
849 YFP # 15, and derived *Arabidopsis* crossing lines as indicated were separated by SDS-
850 PAGE and subjected to an in-gel kinase assay using myelin basic proteins as a substrate or
851 to immunoblotting. Proteins were visualized by autoradiography (upper panel) or analyzed by
852 immunostaining with α -YFP (middle panel). The amount of protein was visualized by
853 Ponceau-S staining (lower panel).

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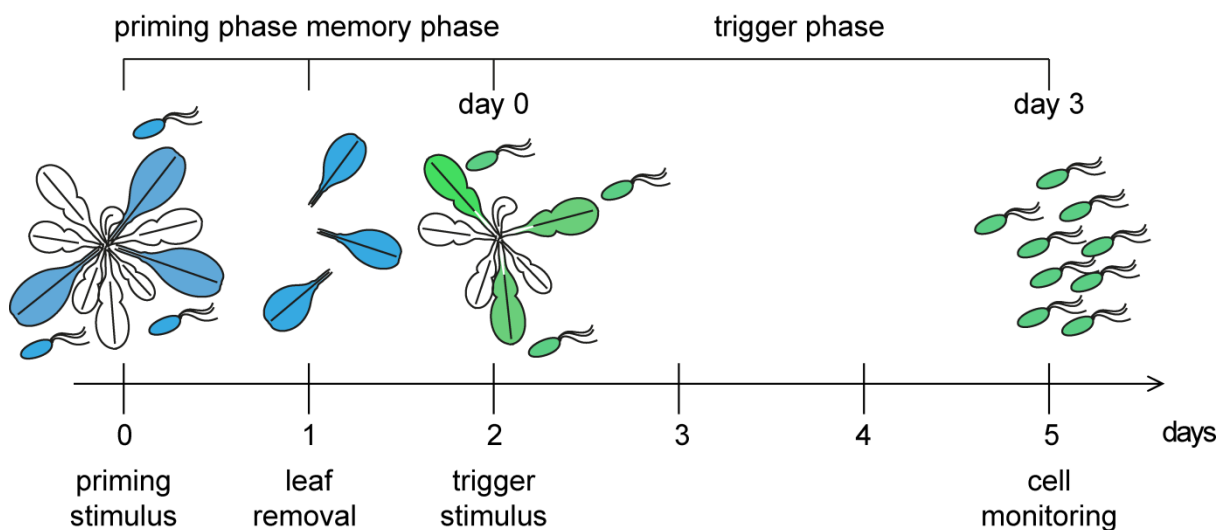
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856

857 **Fig. S2 Overexpression of CPK5 results in the accumulation of pipecolic acid.** Eight
858 pools of five plants of Col-0 and *CPK5-YFP #7* were analyzed for their pipecolic acid
859 contents using the EZ:faast protocol for extraction and GC-MS analysis. The asterisk
860 indicates statistically significant differences in comparison to Col-0 (student's t-test, ***
861 $P < 0.001$).

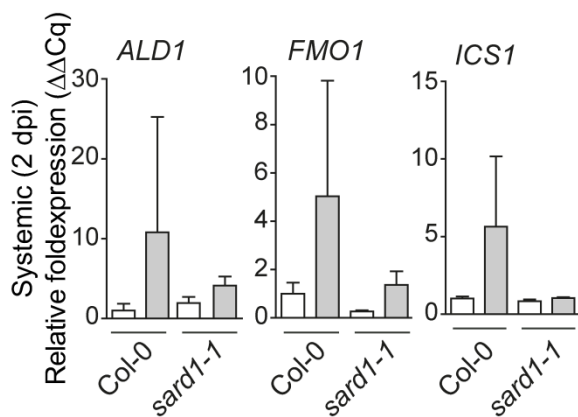
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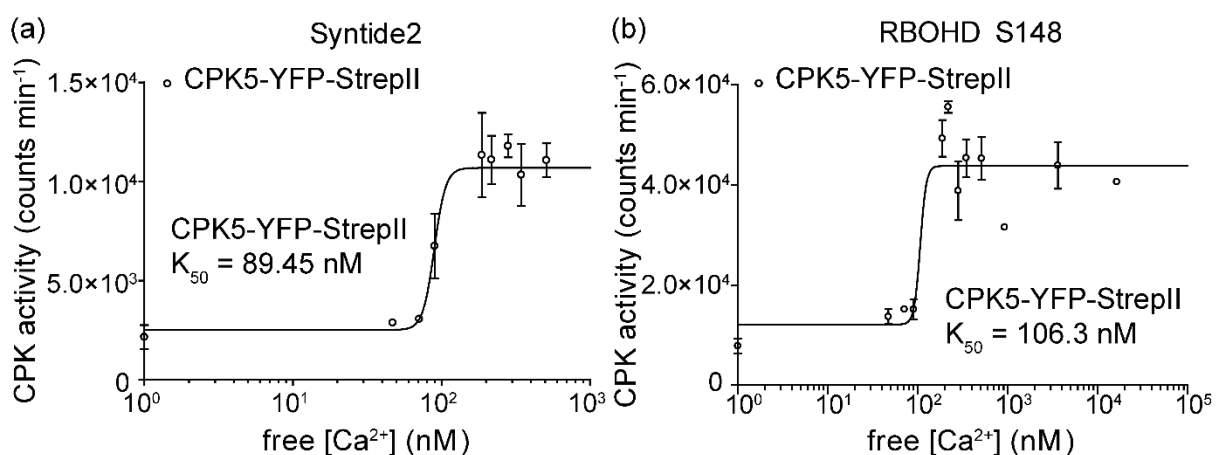
863

864 **Fig. S3 Experimental outline to assess temporal and spatial distinct responses**
865 **required for priming of SAR.** Plants are subjected to a primary stimulation (*priming*

866 *stimulus*) by treatment with 200 nM flg22 or infection with avirulent *Psm* ES 4326 *avrRpm1*
867 and a control (infiltration of 10 mM MgCl₂ as mock treatment) on three fully developed lower
868 leaves (shown in blue). After 24 h these leaves were removed. After two days, three
869 subsequent systemic leaves (shown in green) were subjected to a secondary stimulation
870 (*triggering stimulus*) by infection with virulent *Psm* ES 4326 and the corresponding equality of
871 infiltration events was monitored (corresponds to 0 dpi of cell monitoring). After five days,
872 comparing to 3 dpi after the triggering stimulation, bacterial growth of virulent *Psm* ES 4326
873 was monitored.
874



875
876 **Fig. S4 Systemic defense gene expression at two dpi is reduced in *sard1-1*.** Three local
877 leaves of six-week-old plants of Col-0 and *sard1-1* were infiltrated with 10 mM MgCl₂
878 (mock/white bars) or 200 nM flg22 (grey bars). After two days, three systemic leaves were
879 harvested and gene expression was analyzed by qRT-PCR. Bars represent mean value ±
880 SEM of three biological replicates.
881



882
883 **Fig. S5 Ca²⁺-dependent protein kinase activity of CPK5-YFP-StrepII.** Kinase activity of
884 affinity-purified recombinant protein CPK5-YFP-StrepII (25 nM) was analyzed in an *in vitro*
885 kinase assay toward 10 μM substrate peptide Syntide 2 (a) and RBOHD S148 (10 aa peptide
886 encompassing S148) (b), respectively, for 20 min in a series of increasing Ca²⁺
887 concentrations as indicated and K50 was determined. Data represent mean value ± SEM of

888 two technical replicates. The experiment was repeated with similar results.

889

890 **Table S1 Primers used for genotyping of T-DNA insertion lines and cloning.**

mutant/ overexpressor	LP (5'-3')	RP (5'-3')
<i>cpk5</i>	GTTCTTCATCAAAGGAACTG	TGCTTGTGTACGTGGAGGTG
<i>cpk6</i>	CTCGCAACTAACGCTTACCTG	CTCCATTTTCATCGTCTTCTCG
<i>ics1</i>	AGTGACTGTATTTGATCGCCG	TTTACGAATTTCTGCAATGGC
<i>pad4</i>	TGCGATGCATCAGAAGAGCAGC	TGCGTCACTCTCATCAACAACCA
<i>eds5</i>	CGCTGCACCTGTTTTTATCTC	TTCTCCACCGTGTATGGACTC
<i>edr1</i>	CACAGGCAATGAGGATGATG	ACATTGTCTCTGCCATGCAC
<i>sard1-1</i>	ACCCTTCGTTCTGTCTAGAGC	TGACCGAGATAATCGAAATCG
<i>ald1</i>	TTACGATGCATTTGCTATGACC	TTTTAAATGGAACGCAAGGAG
<i>fmo1-1</i>	AGCGTGCCGTAGTTTCCAAGTT CA	CCAAGGATTGAGTCCCATGTCT T
CPK6-YFP genotyping	CCGCCATGCCCGAAGGCTAC	ACCTCGGC GCGGGTCTTGTA
CPK6-YFP cloning	CACCATGGGCAATTCATGTCGT G	CACATCTCTCATGCTGATGTTTA G
CPK5-Strep/YFP cloning in pET30a	CAATTGATGAGCTACAACAAGC GTGT	GAGGATGAGACCTACCGGCGG CCTTGACAGCTCGTCCAT
CPK6-Strep cloning in pET30a	TAAGCCCATATGATGGGCAATT CATGTCTGGT	GGCTTACTCGAGTTATTTTTCAA ATTGAGGATGAGACCA

891

892 **Table S2 Primers used for RT-qPCR analysis.**

Gene	Oligonucleotide sequence (5'-3')
q-Actin2-F (At3g18780)	TCCCTCAGCACATTCCAGCAGAT
q-Actin2-R (At3g18780)	AACGATTCCTGGACCTGCCTCATC
q-ALD1-F (AT2G13810)	GTGCAAGATCCTACCTTCCCGGC
q-ALD1-R (AT2G13810)	CGGTCCTTGGGGTCATAGCCAGA
q-FMO1-F (AT1G19250)	CTTTCCGAACCTGGCTTGAG
q-FMO1-R (AT1G19250)	AAGTTCGAGCTGCTTTGGAC
q-FRK1-F (At2g19190)	CGGTCAGATTTCAACAGTTGTC
q-FRK1-R (At2g19190)	AATAGCAGGTTGGCCTGTAATC

q-GAPDH-3'-F (At1g13440)	TTGGTGACAACAGGTCAAGCA
q-GAPDH-3'-R (At1g13440)	AAACTTGTCGCTCAATGCAATC
q-GAPDH-5'-F (At1g13440)	TCTCGATCTCAATTCGCAAAA
q-GAPDH-5'-R (At1g13440)	CGAAACCGTTGATTCCGATTC
q-ICS1-F (At1g74710)	TTCTCAATTGGCAGGGAGAC
q-ICS1-R (At1g74710)	AAGCCTTGCTTCTTCTGCTG
q-Intron-F (At5g65080)	TTTTTTGCCCCCTTCGAATC
q-Intron-R (At5g65080)	ATCTTCCGCCACCACATTGTAC
q-NHL10-F (At2g35980)	TTCCTGTCCGTAACCCAAAC
q-NHL10-R (At2g35980)	CCCTCGTAGTAGGCATGAGC
q-PR1-F (At2g14610)	CATGGGACCTACGCCTACC
q-PR1-R (At2g14610)	TTCTTCCCTCGAAAGCTCAA
q-SARD-F	TAGTGGCTCGCAGCATATTG
q-SARD-R	AAGAAGAATTGTCCGAGAGGAG

893