

1 **Pyrophosphate modulates stress responses via SUMOylation**

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11 **RUNNING TITLE**

12 Pyrophosphate modulates SUMOylation

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14 **KEYWORDS**

15 **Pyrophosphate, V-PPase, cytosolic PPase, cold acclimation, SUMO, E1-activating**  
16 **enzyme, heat stress, IPP1, yeast**

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19 **SUMMARY**

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21 Pyrophosphate (PPi), a byproduct of macromolecule biosynthesis is maintained at low levels  
22 by soluble inorganic pyrophosphatases (sPPase) found in all eukaryotes. In plants, H+-  
23 pumping pyrophosphatases (H+-PPase) convert the substantial energy present in PPi into  
24 an electrochemical gradient. We show here, that both cold- and heat stress sensitivity of  
25 *fugu5* mutants lacking the major H+-PPase isoform AVP1 is caused by reduced  
26 SUMOylation. In addition, we show that increased PPi concentrations interfere with  
27 SUMOylation in yeast and we provide evidence that SUMO activating E1-enzymes are  
28 inhibited by micromolar concentrations of PPi in a non-competitive manner. Taken together,  
29 our results do not only provide a mechanistic explanation for the beneficial effects of AVP1  
30 overexpression in plants but they also highlight PPi as an important integrator of metabolism  
31 and stress tolerance.

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1 **INTRODUCTION**

2 Reshaping of metabolic networks under stress conditions enables the synthesis of protective  
3 compounds while metabolic homeostasis needs to be maintained. In about 200 metabolic  
4 reactions ATP is not used as a phosphorylating but as an adenylating reagent leading to the  
5 release of inorganic pyrophosphate (PPi). Most prominently, the biosynthesis of many  
6 macromolecules including DNA, RNA, proteins and polysaccharides releases large amounts  
7 of PPi (Ferjani et al., 2014; Heinonen, 2001). Given the substantial free energy of PPi, the  
8 efficient biosynthesis of macromolecules requires that PPi is immediately destroyed to  
9 prevent the respective back-reactions (Kornberg, 1962). In all eukaryotes PPi is hydrolysed  
10 by soluble inorganic pyrophosphatases (sPPase; EC 3.6.1.1) in a highly exergonic reaction.  
11 Loss of sPPase function causes lethality in yeast (Lundin et al., 1991) and *C. elegans* (Ko et  
12 al., 2007) presumably due to accumulation of PPi inhibiting the biosynthesis of  
13 macromolecules. *Arabidopsis* encodes six sPPase-paralogs (PPa1-PPa6) of which only  
14 PPa6 is localized in plastids whereas all others are cytosolic (Gutiérrez-Luna et al., 2016;  
15 Segami et al., 2018). However, their PPase activity is rather low and even the loss of the  
16 four ubiquitously expressed isoforms does not cause phenotypic alterations (Segami et al.,  
17 2018). In contrast, expression of *E. coli* sPPase severely affects plant growth via alterations  
18 in carbon partitioning between source and sink organs caused by the inhibition of several  
19 plant enzymes involved in carbohydrate metabolism that use PPi as an energy source  
20 (Geigenberger et al., 1998; Sonnewald, 1992). Importantly, in addition to soluble PPases,  
21 plants contain membrane-bound proton-pumping pyrophosphatases ( $H^+$ -PPase) at the  
22 tonoplast and in the Golgi that convert the energy otherwise lost as heat into a proton-  
23 gradient (Maeshima, 2000; Segami et al., 2010). *Fugu5* mutants lacking the tonoplast  $H^+$ -  
24 PPase AVP1 were identified based on their phenotype characterised by compensatory cell  
25 enlargement due to a decrease in cell number (Ferjani et al., 2011). The fact that the *fugu5*  
26 phenotype could be rescued either by growth in the presence of exogenous sucrose or the  
27 expression of the yeast sPPase IPP1 showed clearly that altered PPi levels and not reduced  
28  $H^+$ -pumping are causative (Asaoka et al., 2016; Ferjani et al., 2011). Indeed, vacuolar pH is  
29 only mildly affected in *fugu5* mutants indicating that the  $H^+$ -pumping ATPase (V-ATPase)  
30 present at the tonoplast is largely sufficient for vacuolar acidification (Ferjani et al., 2011;  
31 Kriegel et al., 2015). However, loss of both vacuolar proton-pumps leads to a much more  
32 severe phenotype and defect in vacuolar acidification than loss of the tonoplast V-ATPase  
33 alone (Kriegel et al., 2015). It has indeed been discussed that AVP1 serves as a backup  
34 system for the V-ATPase in particular under ATP-limiting conditions like anoxia or cold  
35 stress (Maeshima, 2000). During cold acclimation plants accumulate cryoprotectants  
36 including sugars in their vacuoles and activity of both proton-pumps is upregulated leading to  
37 improved freezing tolerance (Schulze et al., 2012; Thomashow, 1999). Overexpression of

1 AVP1 has been shown to cause increased plant growth under various abiotic stress  
2 conditions including salinity, drought and phosphate starvation but the underlying  
3 mechanism remained unclear (Gaxiola et al., 2012; Park et al., 2005; Schilling et al., 2017).  
4 Attachment of the small ubiquitin-related modifier SUMO to substrate proteins plays a central  
5 role in the response to a broad set of stress responses including the ones affected by AVP1  
6 overexpression (Castro et al., 2012). Modification of target proteins by SUMO-conjugation  
7 proceeds via a three-step mechanism. First the SUMO moiety is adenylated and then bound  
8 via a high-energy thioester linkage to the heterodimeric SUMO-activating enzyme (E1)  
9 leading to the release of PPi. Next, the activated SUMO is transferred to the SUMO-  
10 conjugating enzyme E2 and finally, assisted by SUMO-protein ligase (E3), donated to a  
11 large set of substrate proteins (Flotho and Melchior, 2013; Johnson, 2004). In *Arabidopsis*,  
12 the key transcriptional regulator of the cold response INDUCER OF CBF EXPRESSION 1  
13 (ICE1) as well as the heat shock factor A2 (HSFA2) have been shown to be positively  
14 regulated by SUMOylation (Cohen-Peer et al., 2010; Miura et al., 2007). In this study, we  
15 report that AVP1 contributes to both cold acclimation and heat tolerance and we show that  
16 the rapid increase in SUMOylation common to both stress responses is missing in the  
17 absence of AVP1. Furthermore, we provide evidence that accumulation of PPi in plants,  
18 yeast and mammals inhibits the SUMO E1 activating enzyme in turn affecting the fate,  
19 localization or function of a large number of proteins during cellular stress responses. Our  
20 results provide a mechanistic explanation for the beneficial effects of AVP1 overexpression  
21 in plants and highlight PPi as an important integrator of metabolism and stress tolerance.  
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## 23 RESULTS

24

### 25 **Lack of V-PPase activity impairs cold acclimation**

26 We have shown previously that upregulation of ATP-hydrolysis by the V-ATPase during cold  
27 acclimation depends on the presence and the activity of the V-PPase (Kriegel et al., 2015).  
28 To complete the data-set for vacuolar proton-pump activity during cold acclimation, we  
29 performed parallel measurements of ATP- and PPi- hydrolysis, H<sup>+</sup>-pumping as well as cell  
30 sap pH in wild-type (Col-0), the *fugu5-1* mutant and a UBQ:AVP1 overexpression line. Both  
31 ATP- and PPi-dependent proton-pumping are increased in wt and UBQ:AVP1 during cold-  
32 acclimation (Supplemental Figure 1A+B). As expected PPi-dependent proton-pumping was  
33 undetectable in *fugu5-1*, but ATP-dependent proton-pumping was also reduced in *fugu5-1*  
34 compared to wt and increased only marginally upon cold-acclimation (Supplemental Figure  
35 1B). As a consequence of cold-induced proton-pump stimulation, vacuolar pH drops by 0.1  
36 pH-units in wt and UBQ:AVP1 but not in *fugu5-1* (Supplemental Figure 1C).

1 Whereas the seedling phenotype of *fugu5-1* is rescued by expression of the yeast soluble  
2 PPase IPP1 under control of the AVP1-promoter during the seedling stage (Ferjani et al.,  
3 2011), the adult growth phenotype of plants grown in short day (SD) was not rescued  
4 (Supplemental Figure 2A). We thus expressed the constitutively expressed *Arabidopsis*  
5 soluble pyrophosphatase PPa5 fused to GFP under the control of the UBQ10-promoter and  
6 could show that it is located in the cytosol as well as in the nucleus (Supplemental Figure  
7 2B) and fully rescues the seedling (Supplemental Figure 2C) as well as the adult phenotype  
8 (Supplemental Figure 2D+E) of *fugu5-1*. For further analysis, two lines in the wild-type and in  
9 the *fugu5-1* background that showed protein expression of PPa5-GFP (Supplemental Figure  
10 2F) and comparable increased total soluble pyrophosphatase activity (Supplemental Figure  
11 2G) in the wild-type and in the *fugu5-1* background were chosen. We next asked if cold-  
12 acclimation is affected in *fugu5-1* and if so, whether this could be rescued by overexpression  
13 of a soluble pyrophosphatase.

14 Both survival rate and ion release as a measure of freezing tolerance was  
15 comparable in all genotypes exposed to freezing without prior cold acclimation (Figure 1A +  
16 B). Cold acclimation via exposure to 4°C for 4 days significantly improved freezing tolerance  
17 in wild-type to a much higher extent than in *fugu5-1* plants and expression of PPa5 fully  
18 rescued the hypersensitivity to cold (Figure 1C). Accumulation of soluble sugars during  
19 exposure to low temperatures contributes to freezing tolerance and could be directly affected  
20 by PPi-accumulation (Ferjani et al., 2018). We thus next compared the accumulation of  
21 glucose, fructose and sucrose and found that cold-induced sugar accumulation is indeed  
22 strongly reduced in the *fugu5-1* mutant but restored by UBQ:PPa5-GFP (Figure 1D-1F)  
23 suggesting that accumulation of PPi and not a lack of H<sup>+</sup>-pumping is responsible for the  
24 impaired cold acclimation in *fugu5-1*. In agreement with this hypothesis, we found that PPi  
25 levels are reduced in the wt during cold-acclimation whereas they increase in *fugu5-1*  
26 resulting in 2-fold higher levels compared to wt after cold acclimation (Figure 1G).  
27

## 28 **PPi controls cold-acclimation via SUMOylation**

29 Low temperature triggers the expression of the CBF (C-repeat binding factor) family of  
30 transcription factors, which in turn activate downstream genes that confer chilling and  
31 freezing tolerance (Chinnusamy et al., 2007). We used qRT-PCR to profile the expression of  
32 members of the PPa-gene family over 24h after exposure to low temperature (4°C) and  
33 found that *PPa1* and *PPa4* are rapidly induced after cold exposure whereas transcripts of  
34 *PPa2* and *PPa5* accumulated at later time points (Figure 2A). Upregulation of sPPase genes  
35 suggests that PPi-levels are actively controlled during the early cold acclimation response  
36 and we thus next compared the expression levels of the core transcriptional regulators  
37 *CBF1-3* as well as the three downstream response genes *COR15A*, *COR78* and *GolS3*.

1 Whereas expression of *CBF2* was nearly unaffected, *CBF1* and in particular *CBF3* induction  
2 was found to be strongly reduced in the *fugu5-1* mutant (Figure 2 B). Similarly, induction of  
3 all three target genes was found to be strongly reduced throughout the cold response  
4 (Figure 2 C). Cold-induction was restored when PPa5 was constitutively expressed in the  
5 *fugu5-1* background (Figure 2 B+C) indicating that the observed changes in gene expression  
6 are caused by reduced PPi-hydrolysis and not by reduced H<sup>+</sup>-pumping.

7 The fast transcriptional response to cold is initiated by ICE1 (Inducer of CBF  
8 expression 1), a direct activator that is negatively regulated by ubiquitination-mediated  
9 proteolysis and positively regulated by SUMOylation (Dong et al., 2006; Miura et al., 2007);  
10 Figure 3 A). Using a specific antibody to detect ICE1 in total seedling protein extracted in the  
11 presence of NEM to inhibit deSUMOylation, we observed two bands in wild-type that are  
12 both absent in *ice1-2* indicating that they correspond to a non-modified (100kD) and modified  
13 (130kD) dimer of ICE1. The ICE1 monomer (50kD) was only observed when proteins were  
14 extracted in the presence of DTT and without NEM (Supplemental Figure 3).

15 In *fugu5-1* the modified dimer was barely detectable indicating that either  
16 ubiquitination or sumoylation of ICE1 are affected (Figure 3 B). We next compared levels of  
17 ICE1 during cold acclimation and found that ICE1 accumulated after exposure to 4°C for 3h  
18 in wild-type but was strongly reduced in *fugu5-1* (Figure 3 C). We thus next asked if overall  
19 cold-induced SUMOylation was affected in *fugu5*. Whereas cold exposure led to a rapid and  
20 massive accumulation SUMO1/2 conjugates in the wild-type, this response was absent in  
21 *fugu5-1* (Figure 3 D). Quantification of SUMO levels in two independent *fugu5*-alleles  
22 showed that it is already reduced to 60% of wt in plants grown at 22°C and levels drop to  
23 20% of wt after incubation at 4°C for 3h (Figure 3 E). SUMOylation is restored to wild-type  
24 levels in UBQ:PPa5-GFP and slightly enhanced in UBQ:AVP1 plants indicating that low PPi  
25 levels are critical for efficient SUMOylation (Figure 3 D).

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## 27 **PPi inhibits heat-stress induced SUMOylation in both plants and yeast**

28 Rapid and reversible accumulation of SUMO conjugates does not only occur during cold  
29 stress but also during heat stress (Miller et al., 2010; Rytz et al., 2018) and accumulation of  
30 PPi should thus also inhibit the heat stress response. Indeed, survival rate of *fugu5*  
31 seedlings was strongly reduced by exposure to 40°C for 30 min but restored in the  
32 UBQ:PPa5 complementation line. Of note, the survival rate of the UBQ:AVP1  
33 overexpression line was increased compared to the wt (Figure 4 A and 4B). We therefore  
34 analysed next if heat induced SUMO1/2 conjugate accumulation was affected. Exposure to  
35 40°C for 30 min led to accumulation of SUMO1/2 conjugates in the wt, whereas the  
36 response was strongly reduced in *fugu5-1* (Figure 4 C). Consistently, a reduction of SUMO  
37 levels after heat stress was also observed for *fugu5-3* are reduced to 20% of wt after

1 incubation 40°C for 30' in both *fugu5-1* and *fugu5-3* but was restored to wt levels in  
2 UBQ:PPa5-GFP and UBQ:AVP1 plants (Figure 4 D).

3 SUMO plays an important role in stress responses across all eukaryotes (Enserink,  
4 2015; Hannich et al., 2005). Therefore, we asked whether PPi accumulation has a  
5 comparable effect in the yeast *S. cerevisiae*. We employed a strain in which the sole and  
6 essential sPPase IPP1 is expressed under the control of the *GAL1* promoter (Serrano-  
7 Bueno et al., 2013) so that switching the carbon source from galactose to glucose led to a  
8 depletion of IPP1 (Figure 5 A) after 6h that was almost complete after 15h (Figure 5 A).  
9 When wt yeast was subjected to heat stress (40 °C, 1 h), SUMOylation increased by a factor  
10 of two (Figure 5B). Heat-induced SUMOylation was strongly diminished by depletion of IPP1  
11 depletion phase (Figure 5C) indicating that inhibition of SUMOylation by PPi is not limited to  
12 plants.

13

#### 14 **What is the mechanistic link between PPi accumulation and SUMOylation?**

15 Conjugation of SUMO to target proteins is initiated by E1 enzymes through adenylation, a  
16 reaction that releases PPi and could thus be inhibited by increased cytosolic PPi levels  
17 (Haas et al., 1982; Lois and Lima, 2005) . To test the direct effect of PPi on SUMOylation,  
18 we employed an in vitro assay in which conjugation of YFP-SUMO to RanGAP1-CFP can be  
19 measured as a change in FRET efficiency if the E1 and E2 enzymes as well as ATP are  
20 provided (Bossis et al., 2005). Addition of micromolar concentrations of PPi caused a strong  
21 inhibition of RanGAP1-CFP SUMOylation by the human E1 (Uba2/Aos1) and E2 (Ubc 9)  
22 which could be released by addition of a soluble pyrophosphatase (Figure 6B + 6C). To  
23 determine the mode of inhibition, we determined Vmax and Km in the absence as well as in  
24 the presence of PPi (Figure 6B) leading to the conclusion that inhibition of E1E2 activity by  
25 PPi follows a mixed mode (Figure 6D). We purified the Arabidopsis E1 heterodimer SAE1b  
26 SAE2 but could not detect activity in the FRET assay (Supplemental Figure 3) and thus  
27 analysed SAE2~SUMO thioester formation in the presence and absence of PPi. In  
28 accordance with the results for the human enzyme, the Arabidopsis SUMO E1-activity is  
29 inhibited by 10uM PPi (Figure 6E).

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#### 32 **DISCUSSION**

33 It has long been assumed that the combined action of V-ATPase and V-PPase enables  
34 plants to maintain transport into the vacuole even under stressful conditions (Maeshima,  
35 2000). We have shown previously that the increased activity of the V-ATPase during cold  
36 acclimation is largely dependent on the presence of the V-PPase (Kriegel et al., 2015).  
37 During cold acclimation *fugu5* mutants thus should not able to adjust their tonoplast proton-

1 pumping activity to the increased demand caused by the accumulation of soluble sugars,  
2 organic acids and other osmoprotectants in the vacuole (Schulze et al., 2012). We show  
3 here that lack of the V-PPase indeed limits cold acclimation severely. However  
4 complementation by overexpression of the soluble pyrophosphatase PPa5 shows clearly  
5 that this phenotype is not caused by a reduced proton-gradient limiting cold-induced  
6 accumulation of solutes in the vacuole (Figure 1). Accumulation of PPi has been shown to  
7 be causative for the developmental phenotype of *fugu5* seedlings (Ferjani et al., 2018, 2011)  
8 and our results show that this also applies to the freezing tolerance and heat stress  
9 phenotypes caused by the lack of AVP1 that we report here for the first time. Although  
10 overexpression of AVP1 has been shown to result in increased stress tolerance and yield in  
11 multiple crop plants, reduced stress tolerance of *fugu5* mutants has so far not been reported.  
12 The fact that the seedling phenotype observable during the heterotrophic phase of *fugu5*  
13 seedlings could be rescued by supply of exogenous sucrose pointed to an inhibition of  
14 gluconeogenesis. The Glc1P/UDP-Glc reaction is reversible and it has been shown that  
15 UGP-Glc pyrophosphorylase is a major target of PPi-inhibition during seedling establishment  
16 (Ferjani et al., 2018). Similarly, PPi accumulation could inhibit sugar accumulation during  
17 cold acclimation but the fact that the early transcriptional response to cold is dampened in  
18 the *fugu5* mutant is not easily explained solely by a shift in sugar metabolism (Gutiérrez-  
19 Luna et al., 2018). PPi is not only released by many anabolic reactions but also by E1  
20 enzymes that initiate the attachment of ubiquitin or ubiquitin-like proteins (UBLs) including  
21 SUMO. Activation of UBLs requires ATP and occurs via carboxy-terminal adenylation and  
22 thiol transfer leading to the release of AMP and PPi and would thus be prone to inhibition by  
23 PPi accumulation (Desterro et al., 1999; Schulman and Harper, 2009). The MYC-like bHLH  
24 transcriptional activator ICE1 is subject to ubiquitination-mediated proteolysis under ambient  
25 temperature that is counteracted by SUMOylation during the cold response (Miura and  
26 Hasegawa, 2008). We have shown here that the compromised cold acclimation of *fugu5* is  
27 caused by the failure to stabilize ICE1 and that the overall levels of SUMO-conjugates that  
28 rapidly increase upon cold exposure in the wild-type fail to increase in *fugu5* (Figure 3). As  
29 we cannot exclude that the altered sugar metabolism of *fugu5* indirectly impinges  
30 SUMOylation during cold acclimation, we extended our analysis to the heat stress response.  
31 The rapid and reversible accumulation of SUMO conjugates is one of the fastest molecular  
32 responses observed during heat stress (Kurepa et al., 2003; Rytz et al., 2018). The fact that  
33 this response is dampened in both plants and yeast when PPi accumulates (Figures 4 and  
34 5) argues strongly against a secondary metabolic effect. Evidence for a direct inhibitory  
35 effect of PPi on SUMOylation was obtained in an *in vitro* FRET-based assay that allowed us  
36 to determine that the SUMOylation of RanGAP catalysed by human E1 and E2 enzymes  
37 was inhibited by micromolar concentrations of PPi following a mixed mode of inhibition

1 (Figure 6). Although we cannot exclude that PPi could inhibit the action of the E2 enzyme,  
2 the reaction catalysed by the heterodimeric E1 activating enzyme releases PPi and is thus  
3 most likely inhibited when PPi accumulates. Indeed, we could show that E1 subunit  
4 SAE2~SUMO thioester formation is inhibited in the presence of micromolar PPi, raising the  
5 question how exactly PPi inhibits E1-activity (Figure 6).

6 For adenylation of the SUMO C-terminus to occur, the E1 enzyme adopts an open  
7 conformation that allows binding of ATP. In this conformation, the catalytic cysteine of E1 is  
8 too far away and unavailable to become linked to SUMO. Thioester bond formation between  
9 E1 and SUMO requires structural remodelling to a closed conformation in which the catalytic  
10 cysteine moves adjacent to the C terminus of SUMO~AMP, via unfolding of structures  
11 associated with ATP binding and SUMO adenylation (Lois and Lima, 2005; Olsen et al.,  
12 2010). It has been suggested that active site remodelling pushes the E1 reaction forward by  
13 promoting the release of pyrophosphate to prevent the reverse reaction, the attack of the  
14 adenylate by pyrophosphate leading to the reformation of ATP. Not only is the adenylation  
15 step rate limiting, once the thioester bond is formed and AMP is released, E1 switches back  
16 to the open conformation and a second adenylation reaction occurs, resulting in the  
17 formation of a ternary complex, with an E1 molecule binding to one SUMO molecule at the  
18 adenylation active site and to a second via a thioester bond through the catalytic cysteine  
19 (Olsen et al., 2010). As E1 enzymes are potential targets for therapeutic intervention in  
20 cancer and other diseases understanding their enzymatic activity as well as inhibitory  
21 mechanisms at the atomic level may provide leads for the development of novel drugs. A  
22 novel allosteric inhibitor that targets a cryptic pocket distinct from the active site and locks  
23 the enzyme in a previously unobserved inactive conformation has recently been identified  
24 (Lv et al., 2018) and it will be of great interest to determine how accumulation of PPi affects  
25 the conformation of E1.

26 Although the exact mechanism remains to be determined, the fact that E1 activity is  
27 classically measured as ATP:PPi (Haas et al., 1982; Haas and Rose, 1982) exchange  
28 clearly reflects that inhibition of E1 enzymes by PPi is not novel per se. Although cytosolic  
29 PPi concentrations reported in the literature, in particular for plants, strongly suggest that  
30 relevant concentrations occur not only in mutant backgrounds or under stress conditions the  
31 relevance of inhibition by PPi *in vivo* has so far not been addressed. Cytosolic PPi  
32 concentrations of 0.2–0.3 mM as reported for spinach leaves (Weiner et al., 1987) would  
33 clearly not be compatible with E1 activity suggesting that PPi levels are maintained at  
34 substantially lower levels at least in the immediate environment of E1 enzymes. Many  
35 nuclear proteins are modified by SUMOylation (Rytz et al., 2018) and the SUMO conjugation  
36 complex self-assembles into nuclear bodies (Mazur et al., 2018). Information regarding the  
37 nuclear concentration of PPi is lacking, but the fact that DNA and RNA synthesis occurs

1 against such high concentrations of PPi argues not only that soluble pyrophosphatases play  
2 an important role in the nucleus but could also suggest that nuclear PPase activity is higher  
3 than in the cytosol. However, the fact that a quadruple knockout mutant lacking four of five  
4 PPase-isoforms showed no obvious phenotype whereas the combined loss of the H<sup>+</sup>-PPase  
5 AVP1 and a single PPase-isoform causes severe dwarfism due to high PPi concentrations  
6 (Segami et al., 2018) shows clearly that cytosolic and nuclear pools of PPi are controlled by  
7 the combined action of soluble and H<sup>+</sup>-PPase.  
8 At least for plants, converting the substantial energy present in PPi into a proton-gradient  
9 seems preferable to releasing it as heat and the soluble PPases might thus only function as  
10 emergency valves. But is accumulation of PPi to inhibitory levels only occurring in mutant  
11 backgrounds or is there evidence that it is actively prevented under stress conditions in the  
12 wild-type? The fact that four PPase-isoforms are transcriptionally up-regulated during the first  
13 six hours of the cold acclimation response (Figure 2) indicates that control of PPi levels is an  
14 integral part of the cold stress response and it remains to be determined if this is also true for  
15 other responses in particular for heat stress. Constitutive overexpression of AVP1 has been  
16 shown to cause increased growth of diverse crop plants under various abiotic stress  
17 conditions. Greater vacuolar ion sequestration, increased auxin transport, enhanced  
18 heterotrophic growth, and increased source to sink transport of sucrose have all been  
19 proposed to explain individual aspects of the phenotypes observed in plants lacking or over-  
20 expressing AVP1 (Park et al., 2005; Pasapula et al., 2011; Schilling et al., 2017; Yang et al.,  
21 2014). Here, we propose modulation of SUMOylation by cellular pyrophosphate levels as a  
22 unifying hypothesis that might explain both, the stress-related as well as the developmental  
23 aspects of the multifaceted AVP1 loss- and gain-of function phenotypes. Although our  
24 hypothesis needs further experimental validation in particular regarding the developmental  
25 phenotypes, it seems obvious that a combination of tissue-specific and inducible expression  
26 of PPi-hydrolysing enzymes might turn out to be an efficient way of generating stress-  
27 tolerant crops for the future.  
28  
29  
30

## 31 **EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES**

32

### 33 **Plant material and growth conditions**

34 *Arabidopsis thaliana* Col-0 ecotype was used in all experiments as control. The two V-PPase  
35 mutant lines *fugu5-1* and *fugu5-3* and the yeast soluble pyrophosphatase overexpression  
36 line (*AVP1:IPP1* / *fugu5-1*) were previously described (Ferjani et al., 2011). Transgenic  
37 *UBQ:AVP1* #18-4 was described in (Kriegel et al., 2015). *ice1-2* (SALK\_003155) mutant was

1 obtained from the SALK population (<http://signal.salk.edu>; Alonso et al., 2003). Seeds were  
2 surface sterilized with ethanol and stratified for 48h at 4°C. For the heat shock tolerance  
3 assays, seedlings were grown on plates with standard growth medium (0.5% Murashige and  
4 Skoog (MS), 0.5% phyto agar, and 10mM MES, pH 5.8) for 10 days under long day  
5 conditions (16 h light/8 h dark) at 22°C at 125  $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ . At day 10, treatment plates were  
6 exposed to 40°C for 4 hours while the control plates were kept in growth conditions. For  
7 freezing tolerance assay, electrolyte leakage assay, PPi and sugar determination and real  
8 time RT-PCR, plants were grown for 6-weeks on soil under short day conditions at 22°C at  
9 125  $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ . Afterwards they were cold acclimated for 4 days at 4°C. Untreated plants  
10 were maintained in the same conditions as the growth period. To determine SUMO and  
11 ICE1 protein amounts upon cold and heat treatments, seedlings were grown in liquid culture  
12 (0.5% Murashige and Skoog (MS), 0.5% sucrose, 10mM MES, pH5.8) under long day  
13 conditions (16 h light/8 h dark) at 22°C at 125  $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ . Growth period was 10 days in  
14 50ml liquid culture in a 300ml flask on a horizontal shaker with 100 rpm speed. After 10  
15 days, part of flasks was either subjected to 30 min 40°C or 3 hours 4°C. Control samples  
16 were kept at growth conditions.

17

### 18 **Construct design and plant transformation**

19 *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* construct was generated using GreenGate (GG) cloning (Lampropoulos et  
20 al., 2013). The 1097 base pairs coding sequence of *PPa5* was amplified from *Arabidopsis*  
21 *thaliana* Col-0 cDNA with primers listed in table 1, attaching Bsal recognition sites and  
22 specific GG-overhangs. To prevent cutting, the internal Bsal site was mutated by site  
23 directed mutagenesis. Thereafter, the PCR product and the empty entry module (pGGC000)  
24 were digested with Bsal, the digestion was purified and then ligated. After test digestion  
25 positive clones were checked by sequencing. The final construct was assembled in a GG  
26 reaction from modules listed in table 2 and transformed into *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* ASE  
27 strain harbouring the pSOUP plasmid. *Arabidopsis thaliana* ecotype Col-0 and *fugu5-1*  
28 plants were used for transformation via floral dipping (Clough and Bent, 1998).

29

### 30 **Yeast strain generation and growth**

31 To replace the endogenous IPP1 promoter with the inducible GAL1 promoter and  
32 simultaneously introduce an N-terminal HA-tag, plasmid pFA6a-His3MX6-PGAL1 was  
33 amplified with primers Ipp1-F4/Ipp1-R3 (Longtine et al., 1998). The resulting PCR product  
34 was used for transformation of a wild type *S. cerevisiae* W303 strain (SSY122; (Szoradi et  
35 al., 2018). Correct promoter replacement in the resulting IPP1prΔ::HIS3-GAL1pr-HA-IPP1  
36 strain (SSY2542) was confirmed by colony PCR and lack of growth on glucose-containing  
37 medium. Cells were grown on synthetic complete medium (CSM –Uracil (MP #4511212),

1 Difco™ yeast nitrogen base (BD #233520), Uracil (Sigma #U1128), Adenine Hemisulfate  
2 (Sigma #A9126)) supplemented with appropriate carbon sources. All determinations were  
3 done on exponentially growing cells ( $A_{600} \leq 0.5$ ). To maintain cultures for several hours  
4 below an  $A_{600}$  of 0.5, they were diluted with fresh medium every two hours until the end of  
5 the experiment (semi-continuous culture). A pre-culture containing galactose was grown at  
6 28°C shaking until  $A_{600} 0.5$ , then divided to four, for temperature and carbon resource  
7 manipulation: Glucose / 28°C, Galactose / 28°C , Galactose / 40°C, Glucose / 40°C.  
8 Samples were taken at indicated time points (0, 6, 15 hours). For heat treatment samples  
9 were taken from 28°C one hour before the indicated time point and incubated at 40°C for an  
10 hour.

11

## 12 **Protein preparation and immunoblotting analysis**

13 To determine total sumoylation amount in Arabidopsis, total proteins were extracted from  
14 liquid grown wt, V-PPase mutants, *UBQ:PPa5/fugu5-1* and *UBQ:AVP1* as described in  
15 (Castano-Miquel et al., 2013). 15 µg protein was loaded to 7.5%, 1.5 mM SDS-gels. Anti-  
16 SUMO1 (1:1000; Agrisera) was used as primary antibody. To measure ICE1 protein, liquid  
17 grown Col-0 and *fugu5-1* and *ice1-2* were used for total protein extraction as described in  
18 Castano-Miquel et al., 2013. Anti-ICE1 (1:1000; Agrisera) was used as primary antibody.  
19 Anti-cFBPase (Agrisera ; 1:5000) was used as loading control for both SUMO and ICE1. For  
20 all immunoblots, HRP-anti-rabbit was used as secondary antibody (1:10000; Promega). To  
21 determine the amount of soluble pyrophosphatase and the amount of total sumoylated  
22 proteins in yeast, total protein extraction was performed as described in Szoradi et al., 2018  
23 with addition of 20 mM NEM. 15 µg protein was loaded to 7.5%, 1.5 mM SDS-gels. Anti-  
24 IPP1 (ABIN459215, Antibodies-online GmbH, 1:1000) and anti-SUMO1 (1:1000; Agrisera)  
25 were used as primary antibodies. HRP anti-rabbit was used as secondary antibody. Anti-  
26 PGK1 (Abcam, 1:100000) was used as the loading control. An anti-mouse antibody was  
27 used as secondary antibody (GE Healthcare UK, 1:5000).

28

## 29 **Determination of PPi and soluble sugar levels via ion-chromatography**

30 6-weeks old short day grown rosettes were ground in liquid nitrogen and aliquots of ~200-  
31 400 mg were used to quantify PPi and soluble sugars. Compounds were extracted with 0.5  
32 ml ultra-pure water for 20 min at 95°C with vigorous shaking, and insoluble material was  
33 removed by centrifugation at 20,800 g for 20 min. PPi was measured using an IonPac AS11-  
34 HC (2 mm, Thermo Scientific) column connected to an ICS-5000 system (Thermo Scientific)  
35 and quantified by conductivity detection after cation suppression (ASRS-300 2 mm,  
36 suppressor current 29-78 mA). Prior separation, the column was heated to 30°C and

1 equilibrated with 5 column volumes of ultra-pure water at a flow rate of 0.3 ml/min. Soluble  
2 sugars were separated on a CarboPac PA1 column (Thermo Scientific) connected to the  
3 ICS-5000 system and quantified by pulsed amperometric detection (HPAEC-PAD). Column  
4 temperature was kept constant at 25°C and equilibrated with five column volumes of ultra-  
5 pure water at a flow rate of 1 ml min-1. Data acquisition and quantification was performed  
6 with Chromeleon 7 (Thermo Scientific).

7

### 8 **Freezing tolerance assay**

9 Plant freezing tolerance was determined with 6-weeks old short-day grown plants. For cold  
10 acclimation, 6-week-old plants were incubated at 4°C for 4 days with same photoperiod.  
11 Non-acclimated plants were kept at 22°C during this period. Plants were wetted thoroughly  
12 to promote freezing, then placed in a controlled temperature chamber (Polyklima, MN2-  
13 WLED). First they were kept at 0°C for 1h. Afterwards, they were subjected to temperatures  
14 from -1 to -10°C, reduced 1°C every 30 min. After thawing at 4°C overnight, plants were  
15 moved back to 22°C. Images were taken before cold treatment and 1 week after the freezing  
16 treatment. Dead and alive leaves were counted after the photos were taken.

17

### 18 **Electrolyte leakage from leaves**

19 Electrolyte leakage was measured from fully developed rosette leaves of 6-week-old plants.  
20 For each temperature five leaves were collected from each genotype. Each leaf (5th or 6th  
21 rosette leaf) was placed into a tube containing 3 mL deionized water, then placed to 0 °C at  
22 a temperature-controlled climate chamber. Temperature was decreased by 2 °C every hour.  
23 At -2 °C an ice chip was added to initiate nucleation. Tubes were collected at -2, -4, -6, -8  
24 and -10 °C and placed to 4 °C to thaw overnight. Next day 2 ml deionized water was added  
25 and tubes were placed overnight on a horizontal shaker (100 rpm) at 4 °C. Conductivity after  
26 freezing was measured with a conductivity meter (Mettler-Toledo, FiveEasy), which was  
27 calibrated with the Mettler-Toledo Buffer solution 1413 µS. Then, samples were placed to a  
28 100 °C water bath and boiled for 2 hours. Conductivity was again measured after boiling. Ion  
29 leakage was determined as the percent ratio of the measurement of conductivity before and  
30 after boiling.

31

### 32 **RNA isolation and cDNA synthesis**

33 For the analysis of transcript levels 6 weeks old Col-0, *fugu5-1* and *UBQ:PPa5-GFP/fugu5-1*  
34 was collected after exposure to 4°C for indicated time points. RNA was isolated using the  
35 RNeasy Plant Mini Kit (Qiagen) according to manufacturer's instructions. cDNA was  
36 synthesized from 1 µg of total RNA using M-MuLV reverse transcriptase (Thermo) and an  
37 oligo dT primer.

1

2 **Real-time RT PCR**

3 For quantitative analysis of gene expression real-time RT PCR was applied. cDNA samples  
4 were diluted 1:50 in nuclease-free water. Real-time PCR reactions were performed using the  
5 DNA Engine Opticon System (DNA Engine cycler and Chromo4 detector, BioRad) and SG  
6 qPCR mastermix 2X (Roboklon). The real-time PCR reaction mixture with a final volume of  
7 20  $\mu$ l contained 0.5  $\mu$ M of each forward and reverse primer, 10  $\mu$ l SYBR Green Mix, 4  $\mu$ l  
8 cDNA and 4  $\mu$ l of RNase-free water. The thermal cycling conditions were composed of an  
9 initial denaturation step at 95°C for 15 min followed by 40 cycles at 95°C for 15 sec, 60°C for  
10 30 sec and 72°C for 15 sec and ended with a melting curve. For the analysis of each sample  
11 three analytical replicas were used. Target genes were normalized to the expression of  
12 *Actin2*. Primer sequences are listed in Table 2.

13

14 **In vitro FRET- based sumoylation assay**

15 Sumoylation of CFP-RanGAPtail with YFP-SUMO was carried out using a FRET-based  
16 high-throughput assay as previously described with minor changes (Werner et al.,  
17 2009)Bossis et al., 2005). Final concentrations of the FRET components were Uba2/Aos1  
18 (E1, 20 nM), Ubc9 (E2, 30 nM), YFP-SUMO3 and CFP-RanGAPtail (300 nM). ATP substrate  
19 was prepared as a stock solution of 300 mM ATP-BTP (pH 8.0). 1 mM ATP was used for the  
20 assays unless stated otherwise. For the PPi application, 30 mM PPi-BTP (pH 7.5) stock  
21 solution was prepared. To determine the effects of PPi hydrolysis on the FRET assay, 0.8U  
22 *E. coli* inorganic pyrophosphatase (NEB) was used and the buffer solution that the  
23 pyrophosphatase includes was added to the control wells (20 mM Tris-HCl, 100 mM NaCl, 1  
24 mM Dithiothreitol, 0.1 mM EDTA, 50% Glycerol, pH 8.0). Michealis-Menten fittings and Vmax  
25 and Km calculations were done in Origin software according to the ATP titration (0-10  $\mu$ M)  
26 performed with different PPi concentrations (0, 7.5 and 15  $\mu$ M).

27

28 **Cloning, expression and protein purification of *Arabidopsis* E1 ligase and SUMO1**

29 Conjugation-competent AtSUMO1 (1-93) was amplified from cDNA, using the primers  
30 AtSUMO1-NdeI-Fw and AtSUMO1-XhoI-Rv, and cloned in the bacteria expression vector  
31 pET28b(+). The coding sequence of SAE1a was amplified from *A. thaliana* cDNA ligated into  
32 pET28a via NheI and BamHI sites in-frame behind the coding sequence for a 6xHis-tag.  
33 SAE2 was amplified from *A. thaliana* cDNA and ligated into the pCR™-Blunt II-TOPO®  
34 vector. pET11d was cut with BamHI and the TOPO-vector was cut with NheI. Both linear  
35 DNA fragments were blunt ended with T4 polymerase. Both DNA fragments were  
36 subsequently restricted with NcoI. The DNA fragment carrying the SAE2 coding sequence

1 was ligated into pET11d via the Ncol cohesive end and the blunt end. Recombinant proteins  
2 were purified as previously described (Werner et al., 2009).

3

4 ***In vitro* E1-Thioester Assay**

5 E1-Thioester assay was performed as previously described in Castano-Miquel et al., 2013  
6 with addition of final concentrations of 1-10  $\mu$ M PPi. 1 mM of ATP was used for all reactions  
7 unless stated otherwise.

8

9

10

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15 grant EXC 81.

16

17

18

19 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

20

21 **Figure 1. PP<sub>i</sub> hydrolysis is required to rescue the freezing sensitive phenotype of**  
22 ***fugu5-1***

23 **(A)** and **(B)** Freezing tolerance assay. Wt, *fugu5-1*, *UBQ:AVP1* and *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* in wt  
24 and *fugu5-1* background were grown for 6 weeks at 22 °C and were then moved to 4°C for  
25 cold-acclimation, or kept at 22 °C for 4 days. Afterwards plants were subjected to a 5-h  
26 freezing temperature regime (0 to -10 °C). After thawing at 4 °C overnight, plants were  
27 moved back to 22 °C. **(A)** Images were taken before cold-acclimation and one week after the  
28 freezing treatment. **(B)** Quantification of dead and alive leaves was done one week after the  
29 freezing treatment with  $n \geq 75$  leaves. 3 independent experiments were performed. **(C)**  
30 Electrolyte leakage assay of Wt, *fugu5-1*, *UBQ:AVP1* and *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* in Wt and *fugu5-*  
31 *1* background was performed on leaf material of acclimated and non-acclimated plants at  
32 indicated freezing temperatures. Error bars represent SD of the mean of  $n=3$  biological  
33 replicates. **(D-G)** Sugar and PPi measurements were done from extracts of acclimated (4 °C)  
34 and non-acclimated (22 °C) 6-week old rosette leaves. Error bars show SD of the mean with  
35  $n=3$  samples of one representative experiments. 3 biological replicates were performed.

1 Significant differences are indicated by different letters (Two-way ANOVA followed by  
2 Tukey's test,  $p < 0.05$ ).  
3

4 **Figure 2. sPPase expression is induced upon cold exposure to control PP<sub>i</sub> that affects  
5 expression of CBFs and CBF target genes**

6 **(A)** qRT-PCR for the analysis of expression of sPPase 1,2,4 and 5. **(B)** Measurement of  
7 expression of *CBF*, *COR* and *GoS3* genes in Col-0, *fugu5-1* and *UBQ:PPa5-GFP/fugu5-1*  
8 by qRT-PCR. **(A)** and **(B)** Plants were grown for six weeks under short-day conditions at  
9 22°C. Afterwards, they were exposed to 4°C for indicated time periods. Whole rosettes were  
10 used for total RNA extraction. *Actin2* expression was used for normalization. Error bars  
11 represent SD of the mean of  $n=3$  biological replicates. Data analysis was performed using  
12 the  $\Delta\Delta C_t$  method.

13

14 **Figure 3. Modification of ICE1 and general SUMOylation upon cold exposure are  
15 inhibited *fugu5***

16 **(A)** Cold acclimation induces ICE1 sumoylation which then activates CBFs and leads to the  
17 expression downstream targets for the establishment of freezing tolerance. **(B)**  
18 Determination of the amount of ICE1 in Col-0, *fugu5-1* and *ice1-2* seedlings. Amount of  
19 TUBULIN was detected as loading control. **(C)** Comparison of the amount of the ICE1 under  
20 normal conditions (22°C) and after cold treatment (4°C, 3h) in Col-0 and *fugu5-1* seedlings.  
21 **(B)** and **(C)** 10 days old liquid grown seedlings were used for total protein extraction. Anti-  
22 ICE1 was used as primary antibody. **(D)** Western blots comparing sumoylation levels of Col-  
23 0 and *fugu5-1* under normal conditions (22°C) and after cold treatment (4°C, 3h). **(E)**  
24 Western blots demonstrating the total sumoylation in Wt, *fugu5-1*, *fugu5-3*, *UBQ:AVP1* and  
25 *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* under normal conditions (22°C) and after cold treatment (4°C, 3h). **(D)** and  
26 **(E)** 10 days old liquid grown seedlings were used for total protein extraction. Anti-SUMO1/2  
27 was used as primary antibody. Whole lanes were measured for the calculation of protein  
28 amounts using ImageJ. cFBPase detection was used for normalization. Error bars represent  
29 SD of  $n \geq 2$  biological replicates.

30

31 **Figure 4. Heat shock-induced SUMOylation is also reduced in *fugu5***

32 **(A)** Phenotypic analysis of 10 days old Col-0, *fugu5-1*, *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* in Col-0 and *fugu5-1*  
33 backgrounds and *UBQ:AVP1* seedlings analysis before and after heat. Representative  
34 pictures of seedlings before and 4 days after completion of heat shock treatment are

1 depicted. **(B)** Seedling survival was determined 4 days after the heat shock. Alive and dead  
2 seedlings were counted and survival is shown as the percentage of the living seedlings.  
3 Error bars show SD of the mean with  $n \geq 24$  samples of one representative experiments. 2  
4 biological experiments were performed. **(C)** Sumoylation levels of Col-0 and V-PPase mutant  
5 *fugu5-1* were analysed with western blot under normal conditions (22°C) and after heat  
6 shock treatment (40°C, 30 min). **(D)** Measurement of the SUMO amount of Col-0, V-PPase  
7 mutants, *UBQ:PPa5-GFP/fugu5-1* and *UBQ:AVP1* seedlings after heat shock treatment  
8 (40°C, 30 min). **(C)** and **(D)** 10 days old liquid grown seedlings are used for total protein  
9 extraction. Anti-SUMO1/2 (Agrisera) was used as primary antibody. Whole lanes were  
10 measured for the calculation of protein amounts using ImageJ. cFBPase detection was used  
11 for normalization. Error bars represent SD of  $n=2$  biological replicates.  
12

13 **Figure 5. Increased PPi levels interfere with SUMOylation in yeast**

14 **(A)** Amount of the soluble pyrophosphatase protein in a conditional Ipp1 mutant of *S.*  
15 *cerevisiae* (GAL:HA-IPP1). Wt strain (W303) is used as a control. **(B)** Amount of total  
16 sumoylation in W303 determined before and after heat stress. **(C)** Measurement of total  
17 SUMO protein in conditional IPP1 mutant of *S. cerevisiae* (GAL:HA-IPP1). **(A-C)** Yeast is  
18 grown in synthetic complete medium supplemented with galactose at 28°C. After growing  
19 until  $OD_{600}$  0.5, part of the Ipp1 conditional mutant is switched to glucose supplemented  
20 medium to suppress the promoter and samples are collected at the indicated time points.  
21 For the heat treatment, cultures are switched to 40°C incubator for 1 hour. Error bars  
22 represent SD of  $n \geq 2$  biological replicates.  
23

24 **Figure 6. PPi regulates SUMOylation activity *in vitro***

25 **(A)** Schematic illustration of the FRET-based sumoylation assays. Upon addition of ATP, the  
26 human SUMO E1 activating enzyme Aos1/Uba2 and the E2 conjugating enzyme Ubc9 form  
27 an isopeptide bond between the CFP-tagged human model substrate GAP<sub>tail</sub> and YFP-  
28 tagged mature SUMO2. This can be detected via FRET measurements: Following the  
29 excitation of CFP, energy is transferred onto YFP. YFP and CFP emission are recorded  
30 upon excitation at 430 nm. Measurements are calculated as the ratio of the  $\lambda_{em}$  (SUMO2-  
31 YFP, 527 nm) to  $\lambda_{ex}$  (CFP-GAP<sub>tail</sub>, 485 nm). **(B)** PP<sub>i</sub> titration showing that the increasing PP<sub>i</sub>  
32 concentration inhibits the sumoylation activity. 1mM ATP used for all the measurements. **(C)**  
33 *In vitro* sumoylation assay showing that the *E. coli* soluble PPase is able to remove the  
34 inhibitory effect of PP<sub>i</sub>. After 10 min of measurement, one of the 8  $\mu$ M PP<sub>i</sub> containing wells  
35 were supplied with 0.8 U of *E. coli* soluble PPase and control buffer was added to the rest of  
36 the wells. Measurements were continued for 20 more minutes. **(D)** PP<sub>i</sub> addition results in

1 mixed inhibition of sumoylation activity. Michaelis-Menten fittings of the measurements  
2 shown in Supplement figure 3. Fittings are done in Origin software and  $V_{max}$  and  $K_m$  are  
3 calculated accordingly. **(E)** *In vitro* thioester bond formation assay showing Arabidopsis E1  
4 (SAE2/SAE1a) and SUMO conjugation under different PPi concentrations. **(B-D)**  
5 Experiments were repeated 4 times, one representative image is shown.

6 **Supp. Figure 1. Increased Proton Transport Activity of V-ATPase upon Cold  
7 Acclimation Requires an Active V-PPase**

8 **(A)** Enriched tonoplast proteins were used to determine  $K^+$ -stimulated PPi hydrolysis and  $H^+$   
9 transport activity of V-PPase. **(B)** Enriched tonoplast proteins were used to determine  $KNO_3^-$   
10 inhibited ATP hydrolysis and  $H^+$  transport activity of V-ATPase. **(C)** Cell sap pH  
11 measurement of rosette leaves. Error bars show SD of the mean with n=12 samples of 3  
12 biological replicates. **(A-C)** Col-0, *fugu5-1* and *UBQ:AVP1* were grown for 6 weeks under  
13 short-day conditions then were cold acclimated for 4 days at 4°C. Untreated plants were  
14 maintained in the same conditions as the growth period. Error bars represent SD of n=3  
15 biological replicates. Significant differences are indicated by different letters (Two-way  
16 ANOVA followed by Tukey's test, p<0.05).

17

18 **Supp. Figure 2. Overexpression of the Arabidopsis soluble pyrophosphatase PPa5 is  
19 sufficient to complement *fugu5-1***

20 **(A)** Comparison of 6-week old rosettes phenotypes of Col-0, *fugu5-1* and overexpression  
21 lines of Arabidopsis vacuolar pyrophosphatase AVP1 and yeast soluble pyrophosphatase  
22 IPP1. **(B)** Representative images showing the localization of *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* to cytosol and  
23 nuclues in shoot (upper panel) and root cells (lower panel). Scale bars: 10µm. **(C)** Cotyledon  
24 phenotypes of 5 days old seedlings of Col-0, *fugu5-1* and *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* in Col-0 and  
25 *fugu5-1* backgrounds. **(D)** Comparison of 6-week old short day grown rosette phenotypes of  
26 Col-0, *fugu5-1* and *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* in Col-0 and *fugu5-1* backgrounds. **(E)** Measurements  
27 of fresh weight and whole rosette area of Col-0, *fugu5-1* and *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* in Col-0 and  
28 *fugu5-1* backgrounds. Plants were grown for 6 weeks under short-day conditions. To  
29 determine rosette area Rosette Tracker plug-in of ImageJ is used. Error bars represent SD  
30 of the mean of n=20 of 3 biological replicates. **(F)** Analysis of *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* protein  
31 amount in Col-0 and *fugu5-1* background with anti-GFP. Soluble proteins from 6-week old  
32 rosettes grown under short-day conditions were extracted. An internal control provided by  
33 SPL detection kit (DyeAGNOSTICS) was used for normalization. One representative image  
34 from three biological replicates is depicted. **(G)** Soluble proteins of Col-0, *fugu5-1* and  
35 *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* in Col-0 and *fugu5-1* backgrounds were used to determine  $K^+$ -stimulated

1 PP<sub>i</sub> hydrolysis. Plants were grown for 6 weeks under short-day conditions. Error bars  
2 represent SD of n=3 biological replicates. Significant differences are indicated by different  
3 letters (Two-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's test, p<0.05).

4

5 **Supp. Figure 3. Western blot detection of ICE1 in protein extracted in the presence of**  
6 **DTT**

7 **(A)** Comparison of total protein of 10 days old Col-0 and *fugu5-1* seedlings extracted +/-  
8 DTT (5 mM) and NEM (20 mM).

9

10 **Supp. Figure 4. Elevated PPi concentrations leads to mixed inhibition of SUMOylation**  
11 ***in vitro***

12 **(A)** Sumoylation assays demonstrating the effect of increasing amounts of PP<sub>i</sub> to the speed  
13 of the reaction in a range of 0-10 $\mu$ M ATP concentration. Experiments were repeated 4 times.

14

15 **Supp. Figure 5. AtSAE1/2 purification and its activity in *in vitro* FRET based**  
16 **SUMOylation assay**

17 **(A)** Gel picture after purification of AtSAE1 and AtSAE2. Highlighted fractions from the final  
18 gel filtration step were combined, dialysed and used for subsequent experiments. **(B)** The  
19 purified Arabidopsis E1 activating enzyme is not functional in the FRET based sumoylation  
20 assay. Assays were set up as described for Figure 6, but with recombinant Arabidopsis E1  
21 enzyme. Human E1 activating enzyme was used in a positive control.

22

23

24

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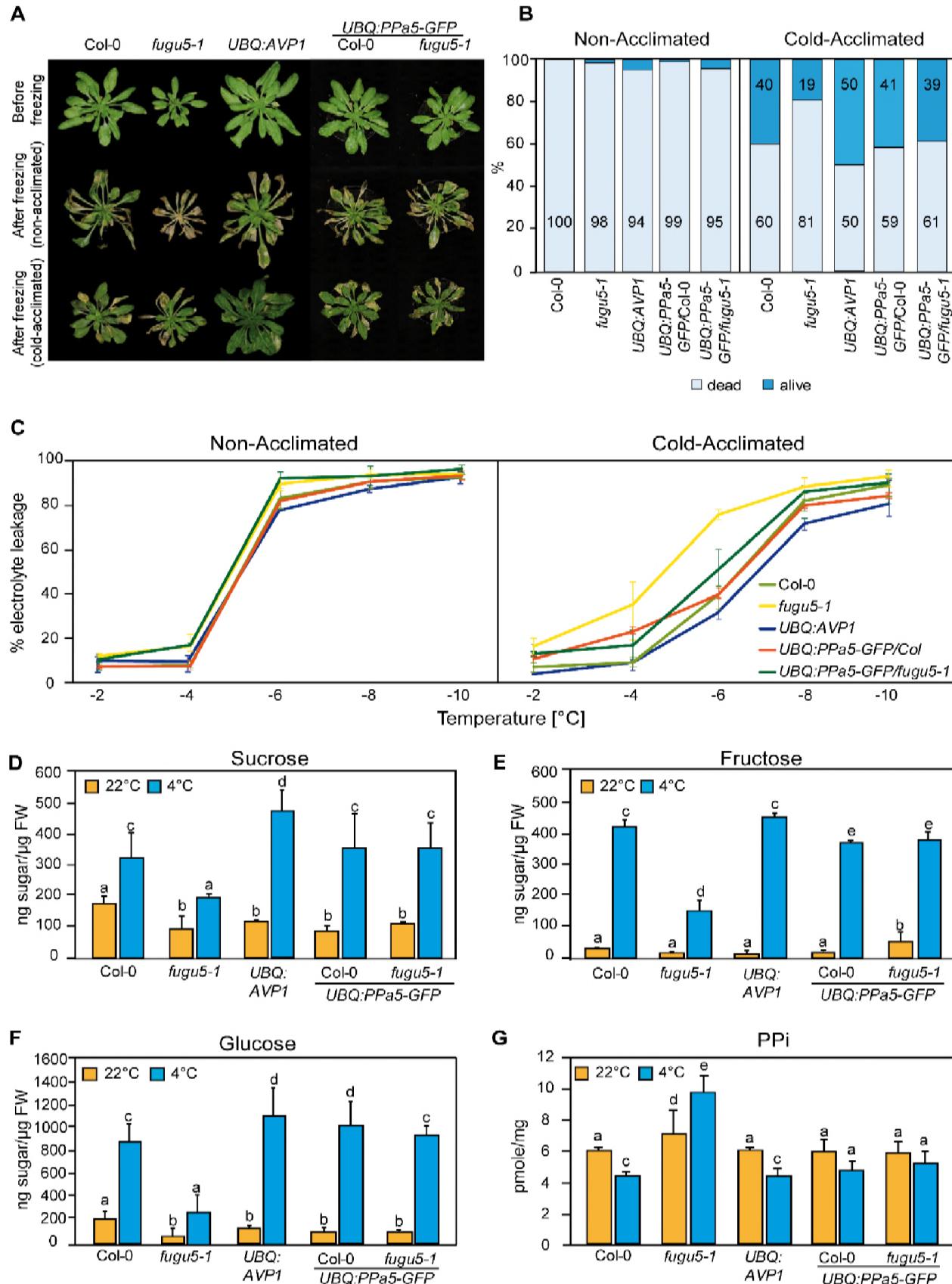
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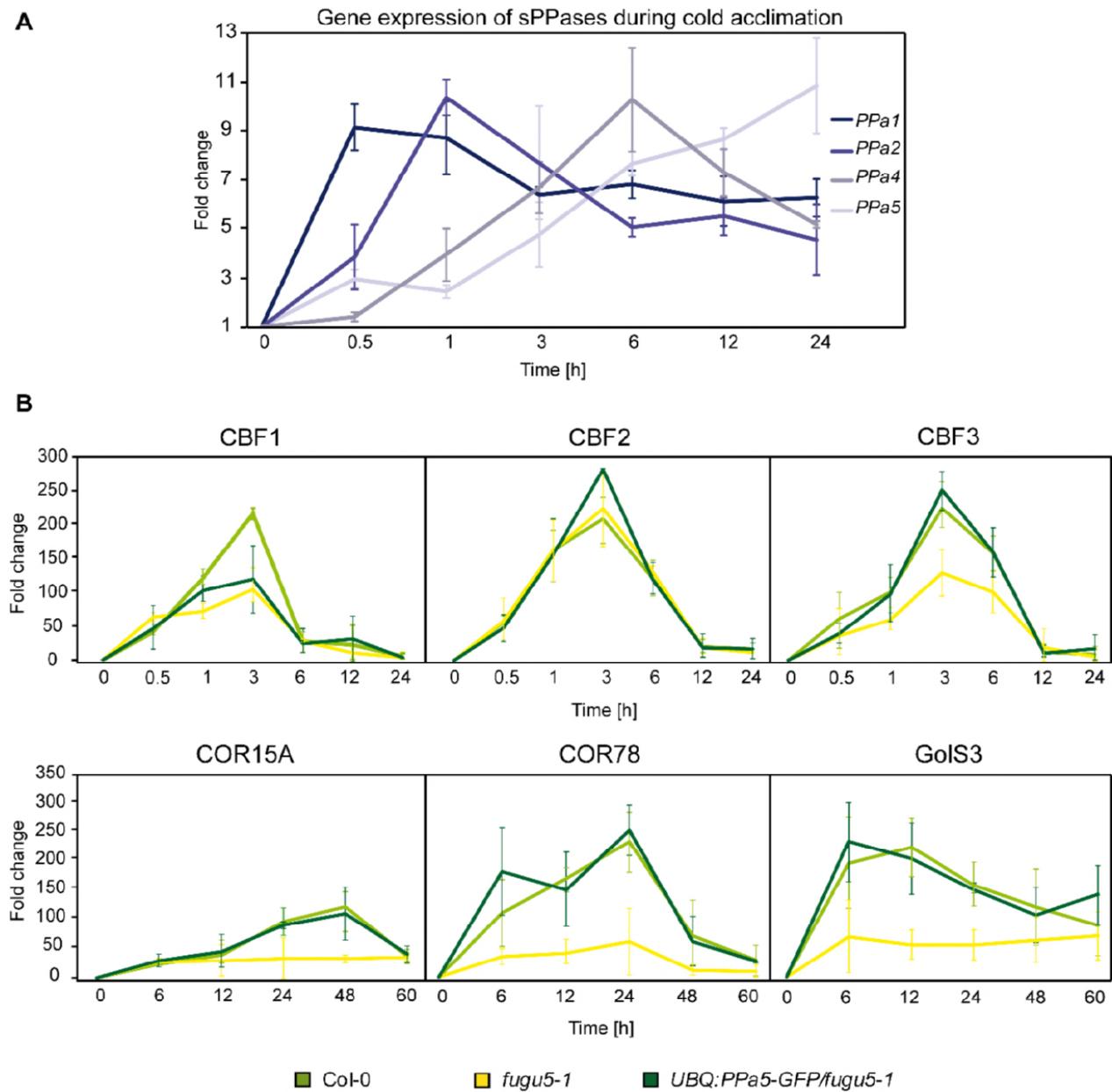
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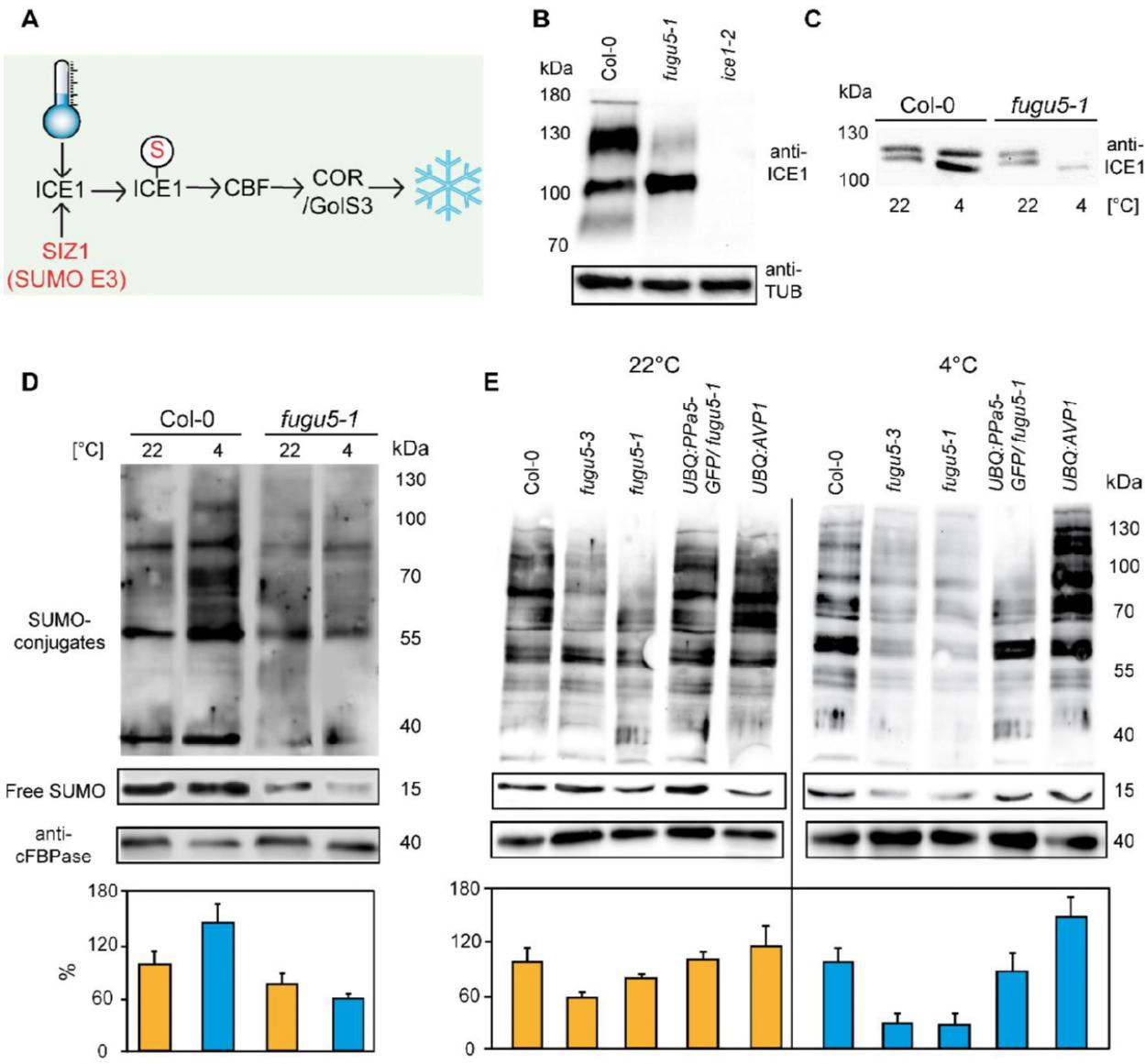
**Figure 1. PP<sub>i</sub> hydrolysis is required to rescue the freezing sensitive phenotype of *fugu5-1***

**(A) and (B)** Freezing tolerance assay. Wt, *fugu5-1*, *UBQ:AVP1* and *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* in wt and *fugu5-1* background were grown for 6 weeks at 22 °C and were then moved to 4°C for cold-acclimation, or kept at 22 °C for 4 days. Afterwards plants were subjected to a 5-h freezing temperature regime (0 to -10 °C). After thawing at 4 °C overnight, plants were moved back to 22 °C. **(A)** Images were taken before cold-acclimation and one week after the freezing treatment. **(B)** Quantification of dead and alive leaves was done one week after the freezing treatment with n ≥ 75 leaves. 3 independent experiments were performed. **(C)** Electrolyte leakage assay of Wt, *fugu5-1*, *UBQ:AVP1* and *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* in Wt and *fugu5-1* background was performed on leaf material of acclimated and non-acclimated plants at indicated freezing temperatures. Error bars represent SD of the mean of n=3 biological replicates. **(D-G)** Sugar and PP<sub>i</sub> measurements were done from extracts of acclimated (4 °C) and non-acclimated (22 °C) 6-week old rosette leaves. Error bars show SD of the mean with n=3 samples of one representative experiments. 3 biological replicates were performed. Significant differences are indicated by different letters (Two-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's test, p<0.05).



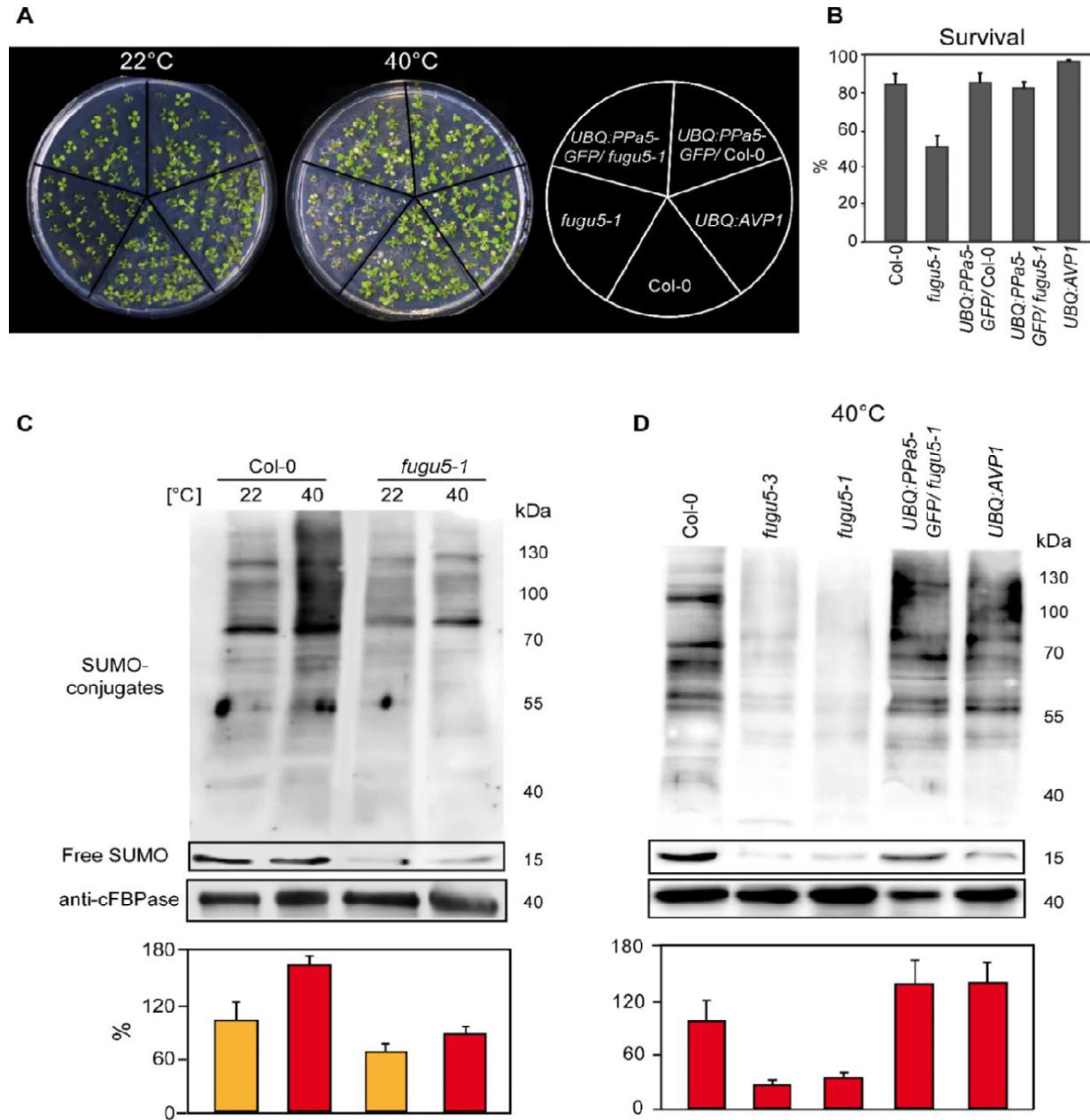
**Figure 2. sPPase expression is induced upon cold exposure to control PP<sub>i</sub> that affects expression of CBFs and CBF target genes**

(A) qRT-PCR for the analysis of expression of sPPase 1,2,4 and 5. (B) Measurement of expression of CBF, COR and GolS3 genes in Col-0, fugu5-1 and UBQ:PPa5-GFP/fugu5-1 by qRT-PCR. (A) and (B) Plants were grown for six weeks under short-day conditions at 22°C. Afterwards, they were exposed to 4°C for indicated time periods. Whole rosettes were used for total RNA extraction. *Actin2* expression was used for normalization. Error bars represent SD of the mean of n=3 biological replicates. Data analysis is performed with  $\Delta\Delta C_t$  method.



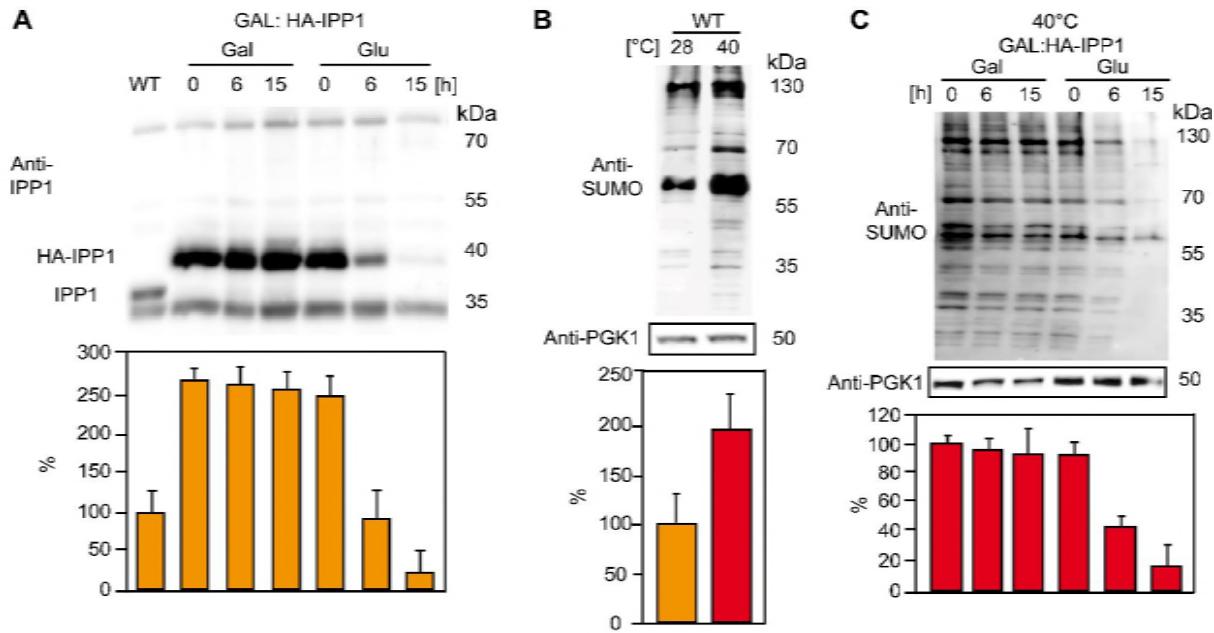
**Figure 3. Modification of ICE1 and general SUMOylation upon cold exposure are inhibited fugu5**

**(A)** Cold acclimation induces ICE1 sumoylation which then activates CBFs and leads to the expression downstream targets for the establishment of freezing tolerance. **(B)** Determination of the amount of ICE1 in Col-0, fugu5-1 and ice1-2 seedlings. Amount of TUBULIN was detected as loading control. **(C)** Comparison of the amount of the ICE1 under normal conditions (22°C) and after cold treatment (4°C, 3h) in Col-0 and fugu5-1 seedlings. **(B)** and **(C)** 10 days old liquid grown seedlings were used for total protein extraction. Anti-ICE1 was used as primary antibody. **(D)** Western blots comparing sumoylation levels of Col-0 and fugu5-1 under normal conditions (22°C) and after cold treatment (4°C, 3h). **(E)** Western blots demonstrating the total sumoylation in Wt, fugu5-1, fugu5-3, UBQ:AVP1 and UBQ:PPa5-GFP under normal conditions (22°C) and after cold treatment (4°C, 3h). **(D)** and **(E)** 10 days old liquid grown seedlings were used for total protein extraction. Anti-SUMO1/2 was used as primary antibody. Whole lanes were measured for the calculation of protein amounts using ImageJ. cFBPase detection was used for normalization. Error bars represent SD of n≥2 biological replicates.



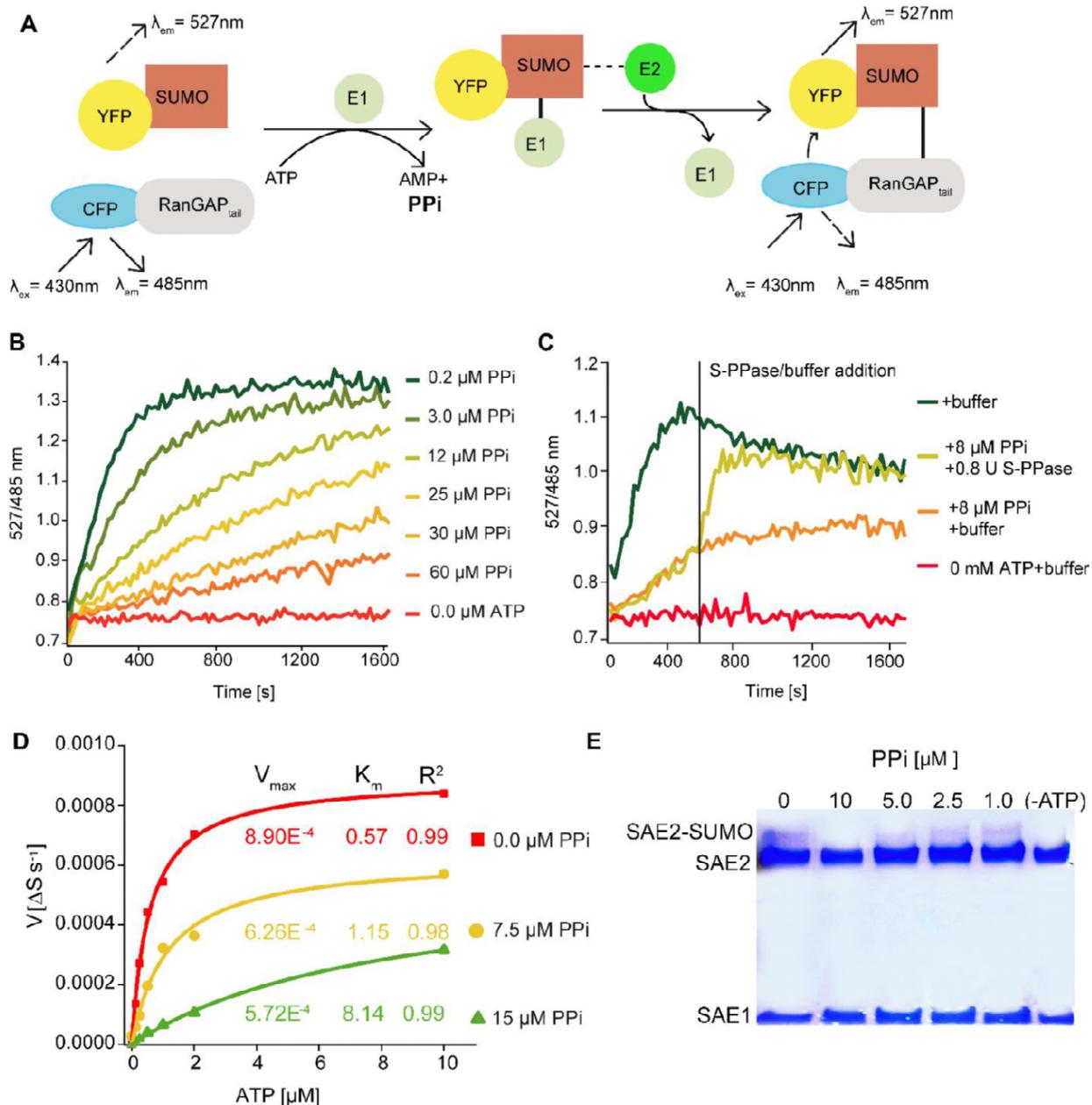
**Figure 4. Heat shock-induced SUMOylation is also reduced in *fugu5***

**(A)** Phenotypic analysis of 10 days old Col-0, *fugu5-1*, *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* in Col-0 and *fugu5-1* backgrounds and *UBQ:AVP1* seedlings analysis before and after heat. Representative pictures of seedlings before and 4 days after completion of heat shock treatment are depicted. **(B)** Seedling survival was determined 4 days after the heat shock. Alive and dead seedlings were counted and survival is shown as the percentage of the living seedlings. Error bars show SD of the mean with  $n \geq 24$  samples of one representative experiments. 2 biological experiments were performed. **(C)** Sumoylation levels of Col-0 and V-PPase mutant *fugu5-1* were analysed with western blot under normal conditions (22°C) and after heat shock treatment (40°C, 30 min). **(D)** Measurement of the SUMO amount of Col-0, V-PPase mutants, *UBQ:PPa5-GFP/fugu5-1* and *UBQ:AVP1* seedlings after heat shock treatment (40°C, 30 min). **(C)** and **(D)** 10 days old liquid grown seedlings are used for total protein extraction. Anti-SUMO1/2 (Agrisera) was used as primary antibody. Whole lanes were measured for the calculation of protein amounts using ImageJ. cFBPase detection was used for normalization. Error bars represent SD of  $n=2$  biological replicates.



**Figure 5. Increased PPi levels interfere with SUMOylation in yeast**

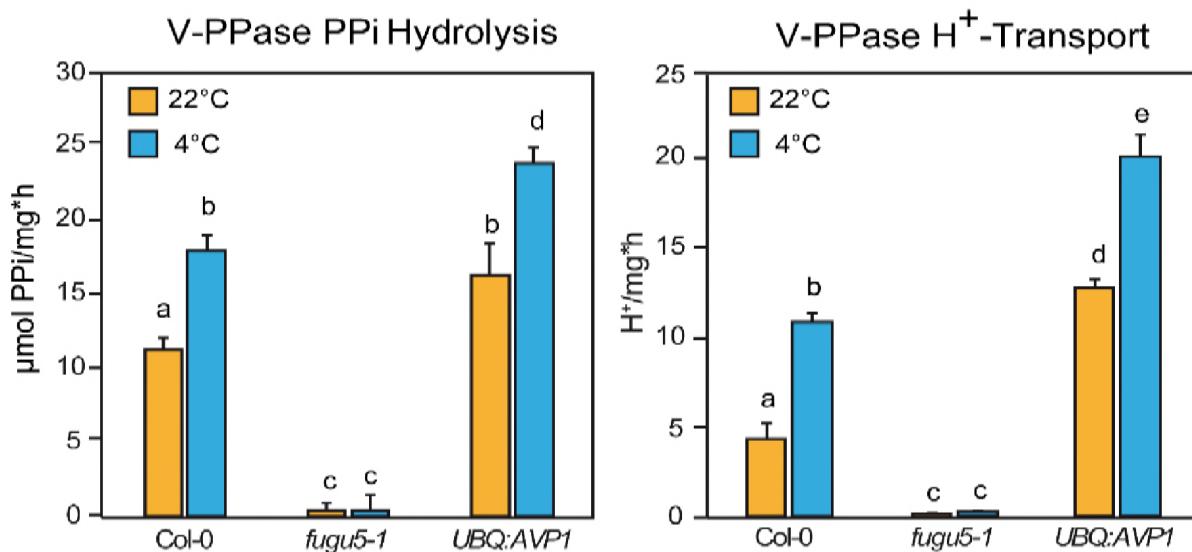
**(A)** Amount of the soluble pyrophosphatase protein in a conditional Ipp1 mutant of *S. cerevisiae* (GAL:HA-IPP1). Wt strain (W303) is used as a control. **(B)** Amount of total sumoylation in W303 determined before and after heat stress. **(C)** Measurement of total SUMO protein in conditional IPP1 mutant of *S. cerevisiae* (GAL:HA-IPP1). **(A-C)** Yeast is grown in synthetic complete medium supplemented with galactose at 28°C. After growing until OD<sub>600</sub> 0.5, part of the Ipp1 conditional mutant is switched to glucose supplemented medium to suppress the promoter and samples are collected at the indicated time points. For the heat treatment, cultures are switched to 40°C incubator for 1 hour. Error bars represent SD of n≥2 biological replicates.



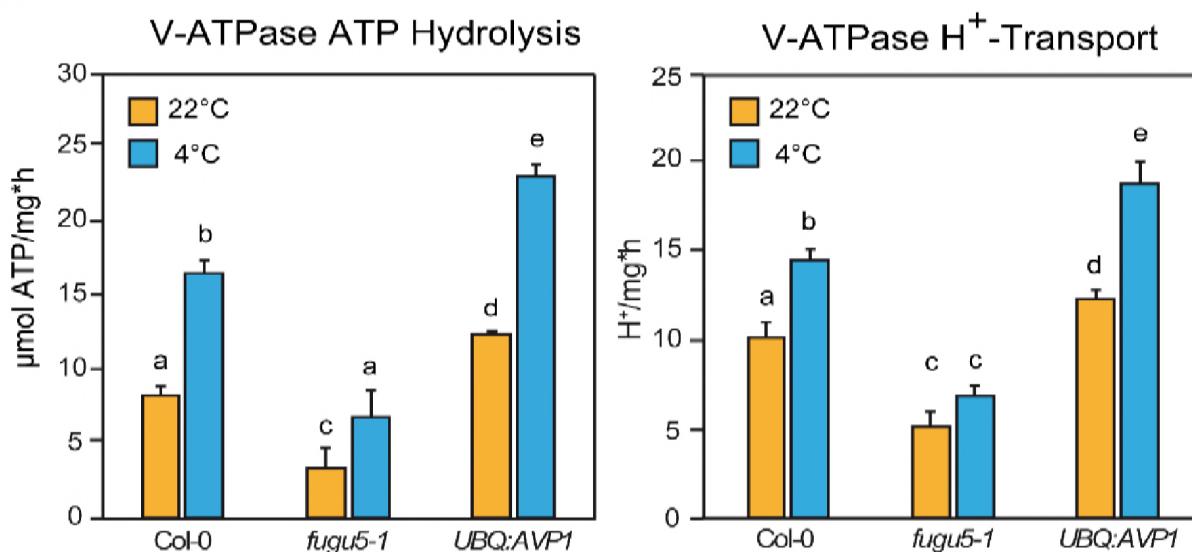
**Figure 6. PPi regulates SUMOylation activity *in vitro***

**(A)** Schematic illustration of the FRET-based sumoylation assays. Upon addition of ATP, the human SUMO E1 activating enzyme Aos1/Uba2 and the E2 conjugating enzyme Ubc9 form an isopeptide bond between the CFP-tagged human model substrate GAP<sub>tail</sub> and YFP-tagged mature SUMO2. This can be detected via FRET measurements: Following the excitation of CFP, energy is transferred onto YFP. YFP and CFP emission are recorded upon excitation at 430 nm. Measurements are calculated as the ratio of the  $\lambda_{\text{em}}$  (SUMO2-YFP, 527 nm) to  $\lambda_{\text{ex}}$  (CFP-GAP<sub>tail</sub>, 485 nm). **(B)** PP<sub>i</sub> titration showing that the increasing PP<sub>i</sub> concentration inhibits the sumoylation activity. 1mM ATP used for all the measurements. **(C)** *In vitro* sumoylation assay showing that the *E. coli* soluble PPase is able to remove the inhibitory effect of PP<sub>i</sub>. After 10 min of measurement, one of the 8  $\mu\text{M}$  PP<sub>i</sub> containing wells were supplied with 0.8 U of *E.coli* soluble PPase and control buffer was added to the rest of the wells. Measurements were continued for 20 more minutes. **(D)** PP<sub>i</sub> addition results in mixed inhibition of sumoylation activity. Michaelis-Menten fittings of the measurements shown in Supplement figure 3. Fittings are done in Origin software and  $V_{\text{max}}$  and  $K_m$  are calculated accordingly. **(E)** *In vitro* thioester bond formation assay showing Arabidopsis E1 (SAE2/SAE1a) and SUMO conjugation under different PP<sub>i</sub> concentrations. **(B-D)** Experiments were repeated 4 times. One representative data is depicted.

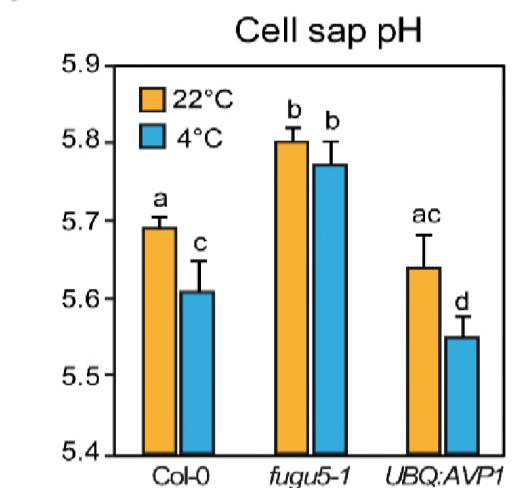
**A**



**B**

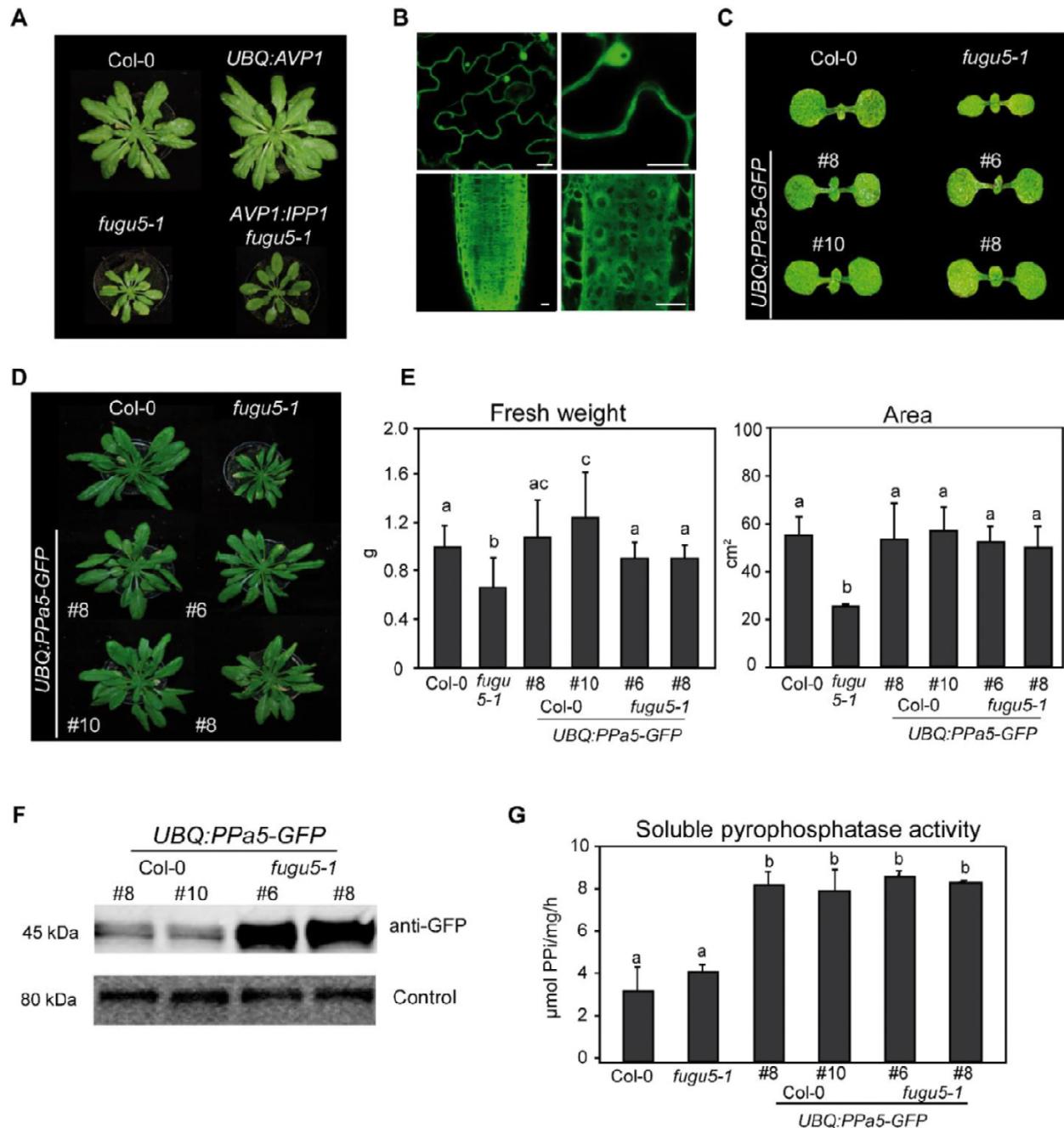


**C**



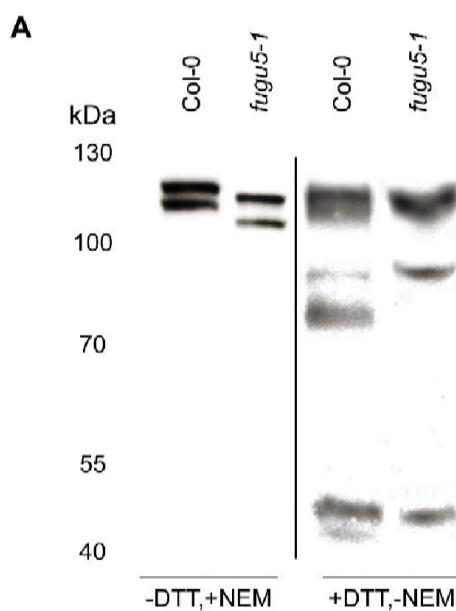
**Supp. Figure 1. Increased Proton Transport Activity of V-ATPase upon Cold Acclimation Requires an Active V-PPase**

**(A)** Enriched tonoplast proteins were used to determine K<sup>+</sup>-stimulated PP<sub>i</sub> hydrolysis and H<sup>+</sup> transport activity of V-PPase. **(B)** Enriched tonoplast proteins were used to determine KNO<sub>3</sub>-inhibited ATP hydrolysis and H<sup>+</sup> transport activity of V-ATPase. **(C)** Cell sap pH measurement of rosette leaves. Error bars show SD of the mean with n=12 samples of 3 biological replicates. **(A-C)** Col-0, *fugu5-1* and *UBQ:AVP1* were grown for 6 weeks under short-day conditions then were cold acclimated for 4 days at 4°C. Untreated plants were maintained in the same conditions as the growth period. Error bars represent SD of n=3 biological replicates. Significant differences are indicated by different letters (Two-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's test, p<0.05).



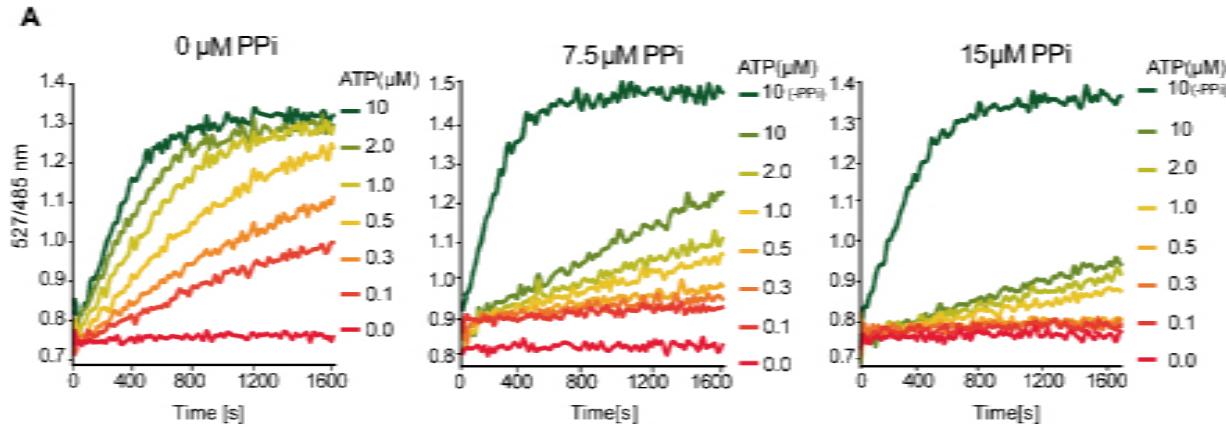
**Supp. Figure 2. Overexpression of the *Arabidopsis* soluble pyrophosphatase PPa5 is sufficient to complement *fugu5-1***

**(A)** Comparison of 6-week old rosettes phenotypes of Col-0, *fugu5-1* and overexpression lines of *Arabidopsis* vacuolar pyrophosphatase AVP1 and yeast soluble pyrophosphatase IPP1. **(B)** Representative images showing the localization of *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* to cytosol and nuclues in shoot (upper panel) and root cells (lower panel). Scale bars: 10µm. **(C)** Cotyledon phenotypes of 5 days old seedlings of Col-0, *fugu5-1* and *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* in Col-0 and *fugu5-1* backgrounds. **(D)** Comparison of 6-week old short day grown rosette phenotypes of Col-0, *fugu5-1* and *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* in Col-0 and *fugu5-1* backgrounds. **(E)** Measurements of fresh weight and whole rosette area of Col-0, *fugu5-1* and *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* in Col-0 and *fugu5-1* backgrounds. Plants were grown for 6 weeks under short-day conditions. To determine rosette area Rosette Tracker plug-in of ImageJ is used. Error bars represent SD of the mean of n=20 of 3 biological experiments. **(F)** Analysis of *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* protein amount in Col-0 and *fugu5-1* background with anti-GFP. Soluble proteins from 6-week old rosettes grown under short-day conditions were extracted. An internal control provided by SPL detection kit (DyeAGNOSTICS) was used for normalization. One representative image from three biological replicates is depicted. **(G)** Soluble proteins of Col-0, *fugu5-1* and *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* in Col-0 and *fugu5-1* backgrounds were used to determine K<sup>+</sup>-stimulated PP<sub>i</sub> hydrolysis. Plants were grown for 6 weeks under short-day conditions. Error bars represent SD of n=3 biological replicates. Significant differences are indicated by different letters (Two-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's test, p<0.05).



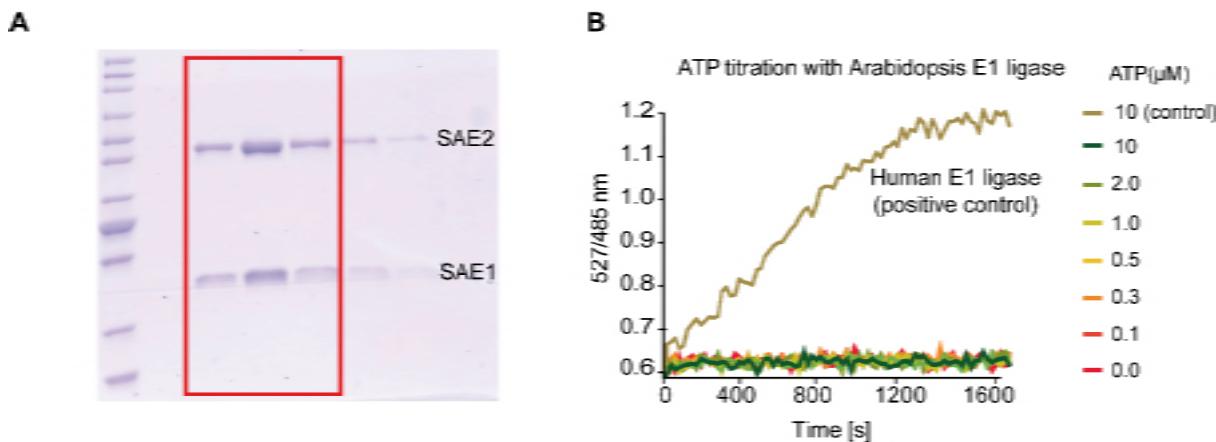
**Supp. Figure 3. Western blot detection of ICE1 in protein extracted in the presence of DTT**

**(A)** Comparison of total protein of 10 days old Col-0 and *fugu5-1* seedlings extracted +/- DTT (5 mM) and NEM (20 mM).



**Supp. Figure 4. Elevated PPi concentrations leads to mixed inhibition of SUMOylation *in vitro***

**(A)** Sumoylation assays demonstrating the effect of increasing amounts of PP<sub>i</sub> to the speed of the reaction in a range of 0-10  $\mu\text{M}$  ATP concentration. Experiments were repeated 4 times.



**Supp. Figure 5. AtSAE1/2 purification and its activity in *in vitro* FRET based SUMOylation assay**

**(A)** Gel picture after purification of AtSAE1 and AtSAE2. Highlighted fractions from the final gel filtration step were combined, dialysed and used for subsequent experiments. **(B)** The purified Arabidopsis E1 activating enzyme is not functional in the FRET based sumoylation assay. Assays were set up as described for Figure 6, but with recombinant Arabidopsis E1 enzyme. Human E1 activating enzyme was used in a positive control.

1 **Supplementary Material and Methods**

2 **Plant material and growth conditions**

3 Same plant material described in the main section was used. Seedling growth medium and  
4 conditions for the confocal imaging was the same as the conditions described for the heat  
5 shock tolerance assay. The plant material used for enzyme assays, cell sap measurements  
6 and phenotypic assays were grown the same as described for material for freezing tolerance  
7 assay. Cold acclimation conditions were also the same. For analysis of cotyledon  
8 phenotypes seeds were surface sterilized with ethanol and stratified for 48h at 4°C in 0.5%  
9 agar solution then planted on single pots individually (n=10). Pictures are taken at day 5.  
10 Liquid culture conditions to grow the material for ICE1 determination is the same as  
11 described in the main section.

12 **Tonoplast vesicle preparation and enzyme assays**

13 Rosette leaf material (75 g) from plants grown under short day conditions was harvested.  
14 The leaf material was homogenized in homogenization buffer containing 0.4 M mannitol, 0.1  
15 M Tris, 10% (vol/vol) glycerol, 3 mM Na<sub>2</sub>EDTA, 0.5% (wt/vol) BSA, 5% (vol/vol) PVP-10, 0.5  
16 mM butylated hydroxytoluene, 0.3 mM dibucaine, 5 mM magnesium sulphate, 1 mM PMSF  
17 (phenylmethylsulphonylfluoride), 1.3 mM benzamidine and 25 mM potassium metabisulfite.  
18 The homogenate was filtered through two layers of miracloth and centrifuged at 10,000 g for  
19 20 min at 4°C. The supernatant was then centrifuged at 100,000 g for 45 min at 4°C. The  
20 microsomal membrane pellet was resuspended in resuspension buffer containing 0.4 M  
21 mannitol, 6 mM Tris-MES (pH 8) and 10 (vol/vol) glycerol. Soluble part was kept for  
22 measuring the soluble pyrophosphatase activity and quantification of PPa5-GFP protein  
23 levels. Tonoplast vesicles were obtained by performing a sucrose gradient with 22%  
24 sucrose. Centrifugation was performed at 97,000 g for 2 hours. Protein concentrations were  
25 determined as reported previously (Bradford, 1976). ATP and PP<sub>i</sub> hydrolysis was measured  
26 at 28°C as described previously (Krebs et al., 2010). Same method was also used for  
27 measuring soluble pyrophosphatase activity with soluble proteins. The ATP and PP<sub>i</sub>-  
28 dependent proton transport activities were estimated from the initial rate of ATP-dependent  
29 fluorescence quenching in the presence of 3 mM ATP using the fluorescence dye ACMA (9-  
30 Amino-6-Chloro-2-Methoxyacridine) with 50µg enriched tonoplast protein. Excitation  
31 wavelength was 415 nm, and emission was measured at 485 nm in Jasco fluorescence  
32 spectrometer. V-PPase H<sup>+</sup> transport medium includes 25mM HEPES-BTP (pH 7.2), 250 mM  
33 Sorbitol, 1.5 mM MgSO<sub>4</sub>, 50 mM KCl and 0.3mM PP<sub>i</sub>-BTP (pH 7.5) final concentration in 1  
34 ml volume. V-ATPase H<sup>+</sup> transport medium includes 10 mM ATP-MES (pH 8.0), 0.25 M

1 Mannitol, 3 mM MgSO<sub>4</sub>, 100 mM TMA-Cl and 1.5 mM ATP-BTP (pH 7.5) final concentration  
2 in 1 ml volume.

3 **SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting analysis**

4 To determine protein levels of V-ATPase and V-PPase at 22 and 4°C in tonoplast  
5 membrane extracts of Col-0, *fugu5-1* and *UBQ:AVP1*. The primary antibody against the V-  
6 PPase was purchased from Cosmo Bio (1:10,000) and the primary antibody against VHA-C  
7 is as previously described (Schumacher et al., 1999). To determine the *UBQ:PPa5-GFP*  
8 levels in Col-0 and *fugu5-1* background soluble proteins were extracted as described in  
9 tonoplast vesicle preparation section. Anti-GFP (Agrisera, 1:10000) was used as primary  
10 antibody. An internal control from SPL kit was used for normalization (NH, DyeAgnostics).  
11 To measure ICE1 protein, Col-0 and *fugu5-1* were grown in liquid culture. Material was split  
12 in two for total protein extraction, same buffer described in Castaño-Miquel et al., 2013 was  
13 used for one part, and same buffer without NEM and with addition of 5 mM DTT used for the  
14 other. Anti-ICE1 (1:1000; Agrisera) was used as primary antibody. For all immunoblots,  
15 HRP-anti-rabbit was used as secondary antibody (1:10000; Promega). Imaging was carried  
16 out using a cooled CCD camera system (Intas ADVANCED Fluoreszenz u. ECL Imager).  
17 Western blots were quantified with Fiji (based on ImageJ 1.47t).

18 **Cell sap pH measurements**

19 Cell sap pH measurements were conducted as previously described (Krebs et al., 2010)

20 **Confocal Microscopy**

21 Localization of *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* construct was determined using a Leica TCS SP5II  
22 microscope equipped with a Leica HCX PL APO lambda blue 63.0 3 1.20 UV water  
23 immersion objective. GFP was excited at 488 nm using a VIS-argon laser. Fluorescence  
24 emission of GFP was detected between 500 and 555 nm. The Leica Application Suite  
25 Advanced Fluorescence software was used for image acquisition. Post processing of images  
26 were performed using Fiji.

27

28

Table 1. Primers of *UBQ:PPa5-GFP* construct

Primer Name	5' to 3'	Sequence
PPa5	Forward	AAC AGG TCT CAG GCT CAA CAA TGA ATG GAG AAG AAG TGA AA
	Reverse	AAC AGG TCT CTC TGA TCT CCT CAG GGT GTG AAG AAT
PPa5, Eco31I mutation	Forward	AAC AGG TCT CAA CTC ATC AAG GTT GAT AGG AT
	Reverse	AAC AGG TCT CTG AGT CCT GTT TTT TTG TCA AG

Table 2. List of GG modules

GG module name	Type	AGI	Reference
pGGA006	<i>UBIQUITIN 10</i> ( <i>UBQ10</i> ) promoter	AT4G05320	Lampropoulos et al., 2013
pGGB003	B-dummy	na	Lampropoulos et al., 2013
pGGC-PPa5	<i>PPa5</i>	AT4G01480	This work
pGGD001	Linker-GFP	na	Lampropoulos et al., 2013
pGGE001	<i>RBCS</i> terminator (from pea)	na	Lampropoulos et al., 2013
pGGF012	<i>pUBQ10:Hyg<sup>R</sup>:tOCS</i>	na	Lampropoulos et al., 2013
pGGZ001	Vector backbone	na	Lampropoulos et al., 2013

Table 3. qRT primers

Primer Name	5' to 3'	Sequence
CBF1	Forward	GTC AAC ATG CGC CAA GGA TA
	Reverse	TCG GCA TCC CAA ACA TTG TC
CBF2	Forward	GAA TCC CGG AAT CAA CCT GT
	Reverse	CCC AAC ATC GCC TCT TCA TC
CBF3	Forward	CAA CTT GCG CTA AGG ACA
	Reverse	TCT CAA ACA TCG CCT CAT
COR15A	Forward	AAC GAG GCC ACA AAG AAA GC
	Reverse	CAG CTT CTT TAC CCA ATG TAT CTG C
COR78	Forward	GCA CCA GGC GTA ACA GGT AAA C
	Reverse	AAA CAC CTT TGT CCC TGG TGG

GolS3	Forward	ACA GGC CAA GAA GGA AAT ATG G
	Reverse	GAT GGA GCT TTG GCA CAT TG
PPa1	Forward	ACA ATC GGC TGT TTC GTT TC
	Reverse	TTC CTT TAG TGA TCT CAA CAA CCA C
PPa2	Forward	CAG TAG GAG CTT CTG GAC CAA TC
	Reverse	GCT TGG ATG GGA ATG TCC TG
PPa3	Forward	CAA ATG CTC TGT TTT CTT CTG C
	Reverse	CCT TTG TGA TCT CAA CCA CCA C
PPa4	Forward	TGA GAT CTG TGC TTG CGT TT
	Reverse	TGG GGC TTC AGG TCC TAT C
PPa5	Forward	CTC CAC ACT TTC CGC AAG AT
	Reverse	ACT GGA GCT CCA GGT CCG
PPa6	Forward	GAG ACA AAC CAG CAA ACA AAG AC
	Reverse	AAA CAA AAT CCA AAT CCC AAT G
Actin	Forward	TCT TCC GCT CTT TCT TTC CA
	Reverse	TCA CCA TAC CGG TAC CAT TG

Table 3. Primers for protein purification

Primer Name	5' to 3'	Sequence
SAE1a	Forward	TAT ATG GCT AGC ATG GAC GGA GAA GAG CTT ACC
	Reverse	TAT ATG GGA TCC TTA AGA GGT AAA AGA GTC GGA AAT GTC
SAE2	Forward	TAT ATG CCA TGG CTA CGC AAC AAC AG
	Reverse	TAT ATG GCT AGC CTA TTC AAC TCT TAT CTT CTT TTT GCT
AtSUMO1	Forward	AAC ACA TAT GTC TGC AAA CCA GGA GGA AG
	Reverse	AAC ACT CGA GTC AGC CAC CAG TCT GAT GGA G