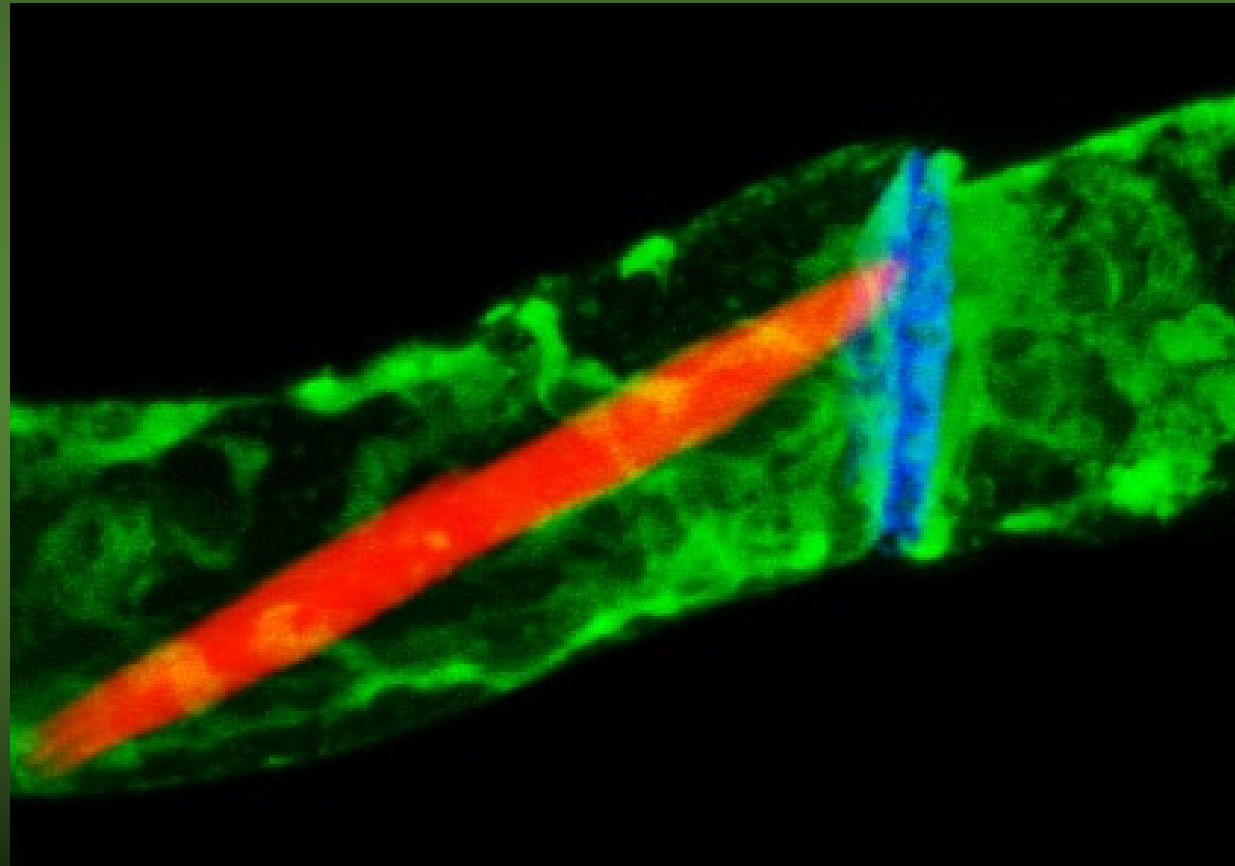
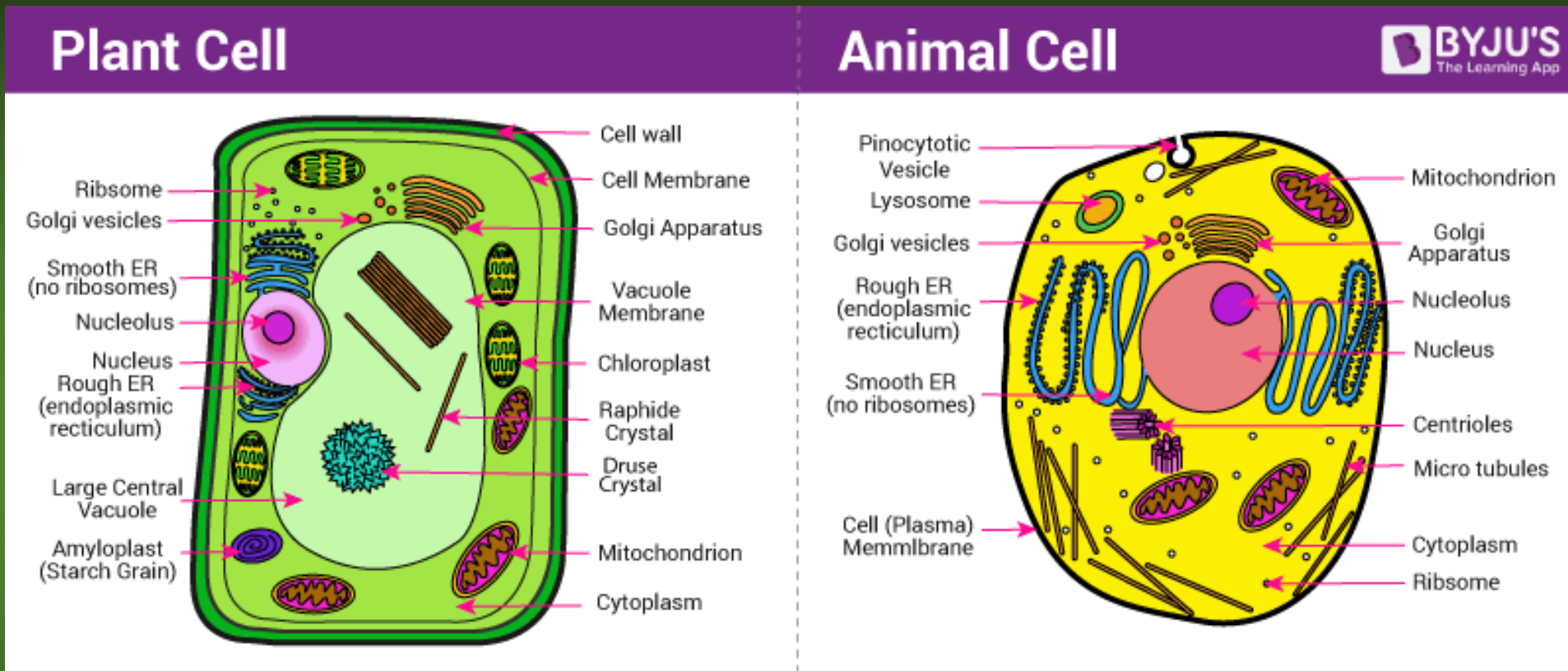


# PLASMODESMATA – NANOPORES IN PLANT TISSUES

Michael Knoblauch, Washington State University, Pullman



# Plant- Versus Animal Cells

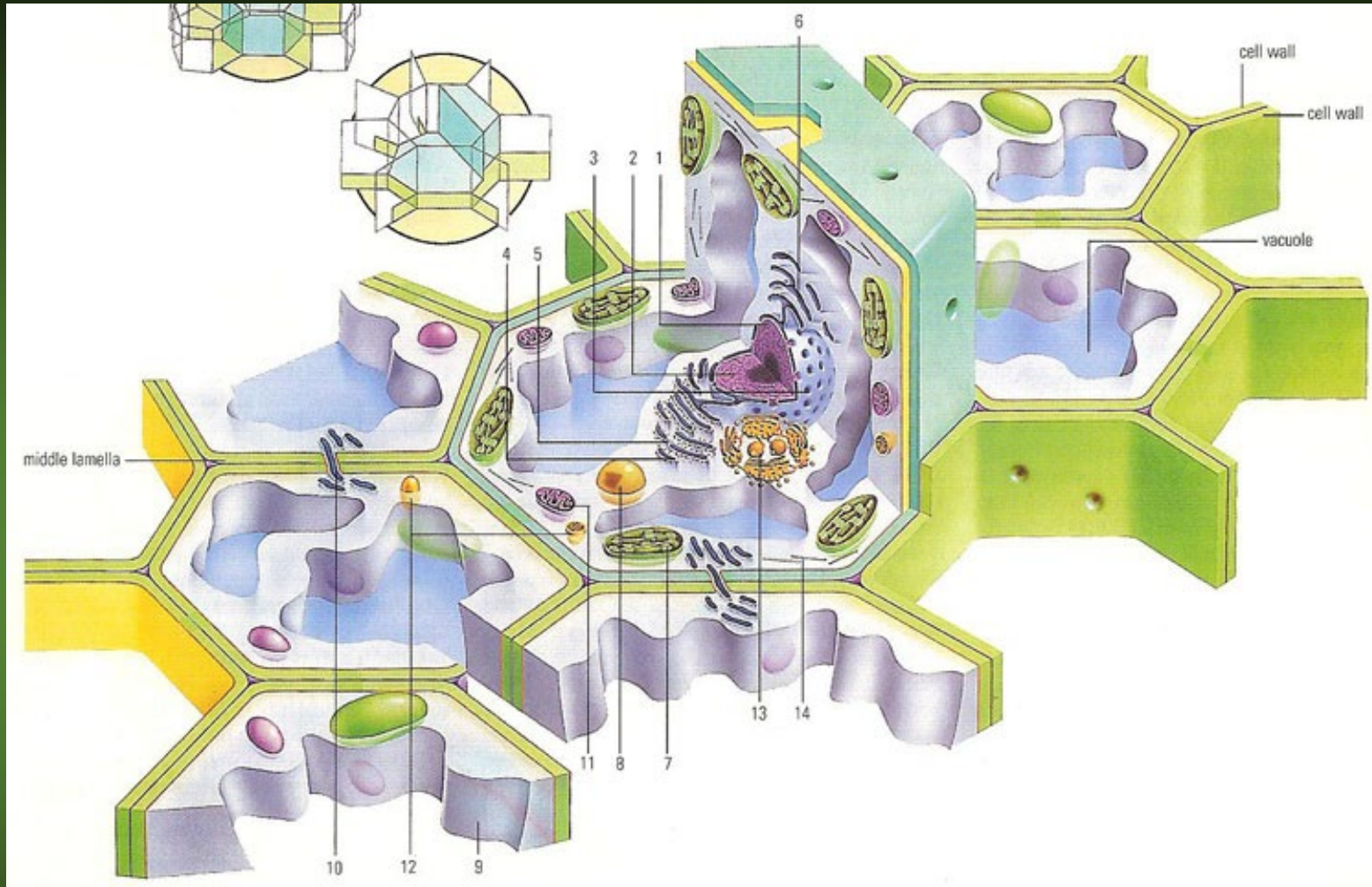


From: <https://byjus.com/biology/difference-between-plant-cell-and-animal-cell/>

# Mimosa pudica



# Plant Cell Connections - Plasmodesmata



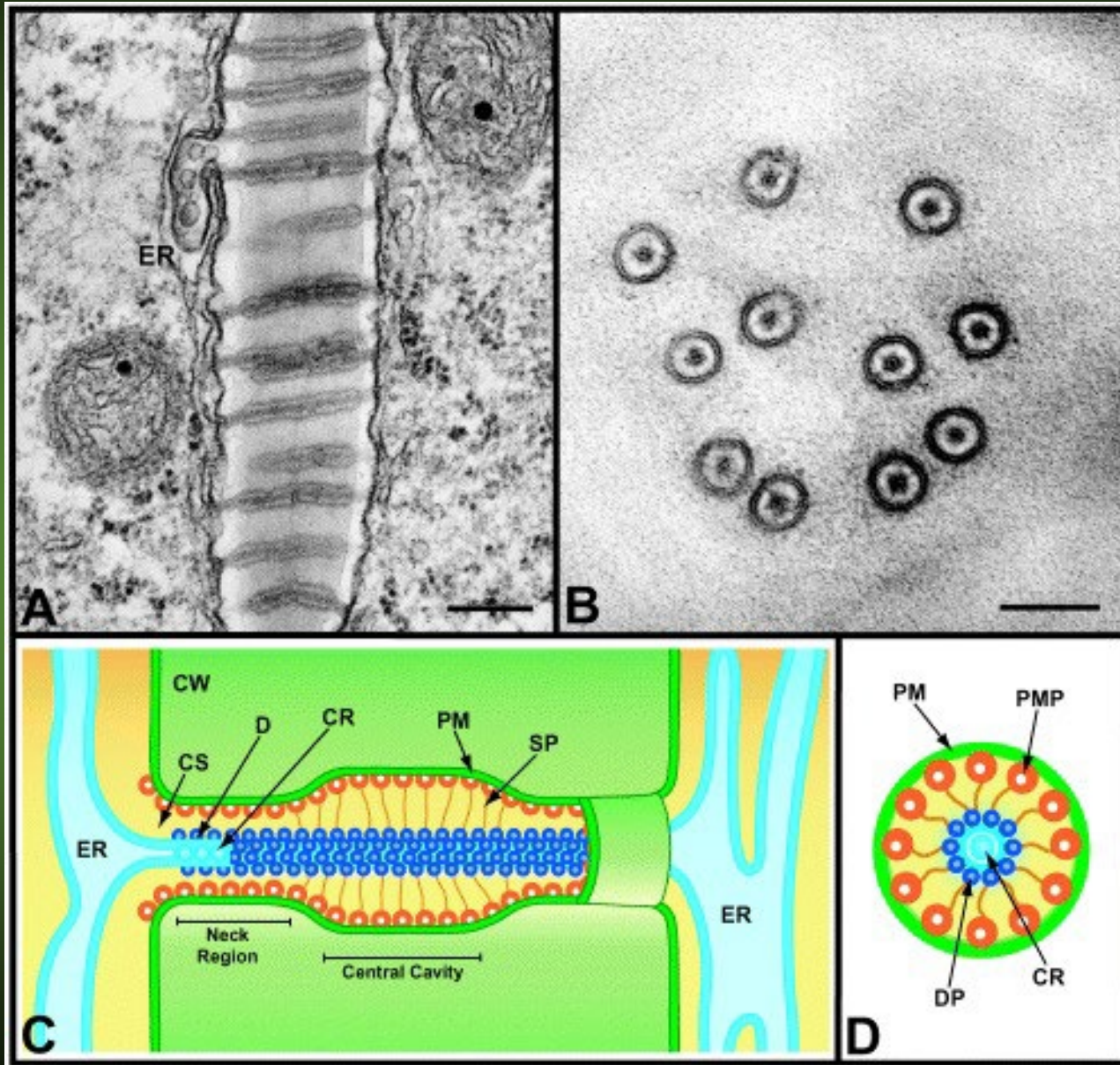
From:

[https://www.daviddarling.info/encyclopedia/P/plant\\_cell.html](https://www.daviddarling.info/encyclopedia/P/plant_cell.html)

# PD model

Peters WS, Jensen KH, Stone HA, Knoblauch M.

Plasmodesmata and the problems with size: Interpreting the confusion. J Plant Physiol. 2021



Plasmodesmata and the control of symplastic transport

[A. G. ROBERTS](#), [K. J. OPARKA](#)

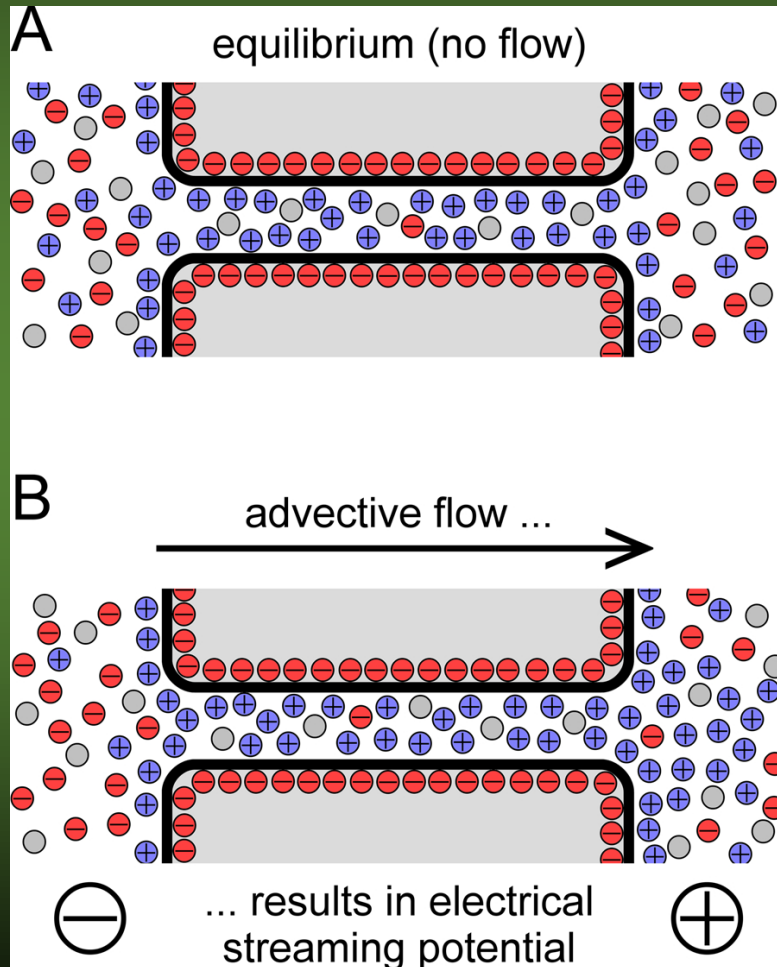
First published: 20 January 2003

“Based on model in Ding et al. 1992”

# Selectivity of plasmodesmata

Terry and Robards “Hydrodynamic radius alone governs the mobility of molecules through plasmodesmata”. *Planta* 1987 171, 145-57.)

Peters WS, Jensen KH,  
Stone HA, Knoblauch M.  
Plasmodesmata and the  
problems with size:  
Interpreting the confusion.  
*J Plant Physiol.* 2021



Howard Stone,  
Mechanical and  
Aerospace Engineering.  
Princeton University

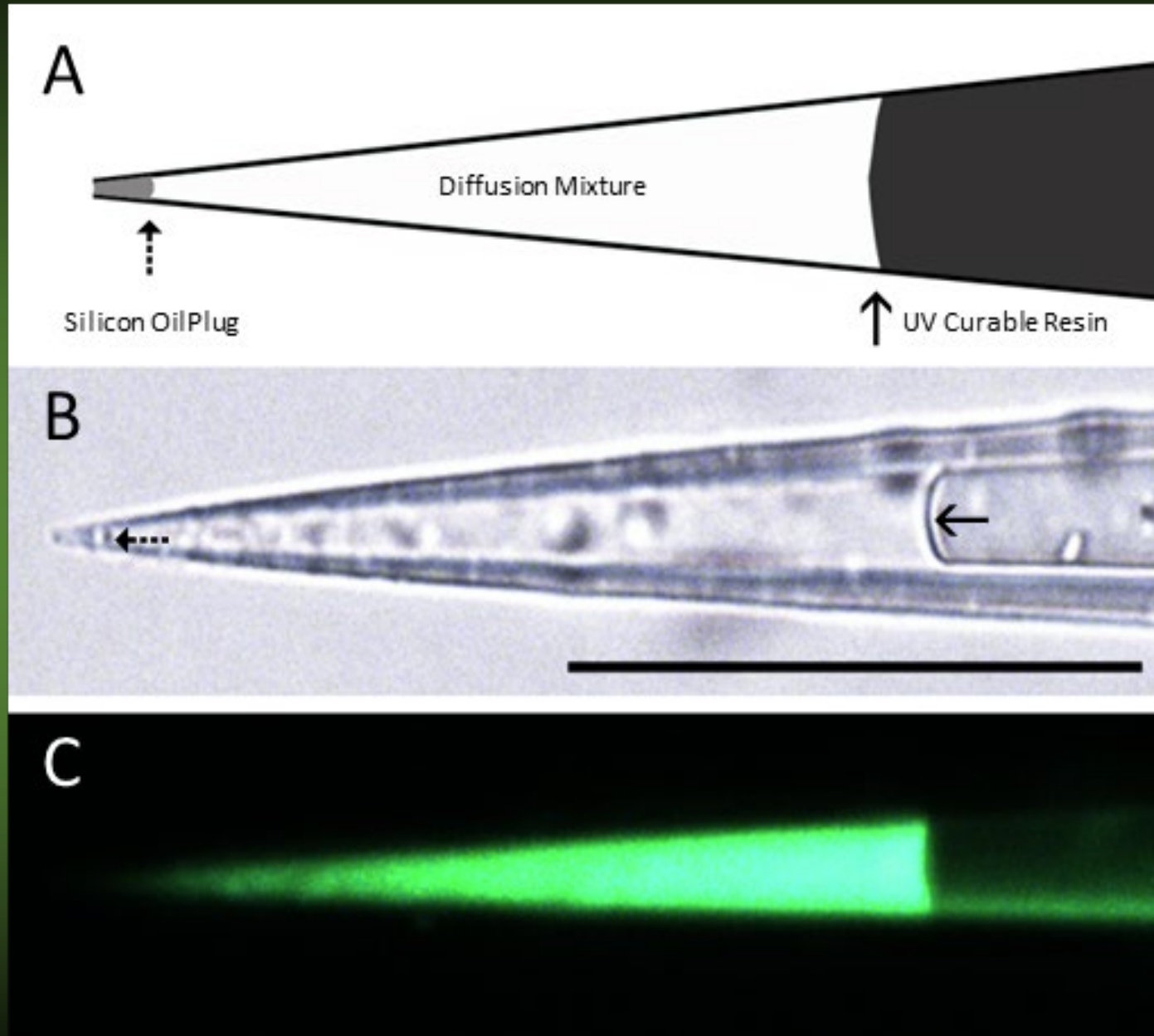


Kaare H. Jensen,  
Physics.  
Technical  
University of  
Denmark

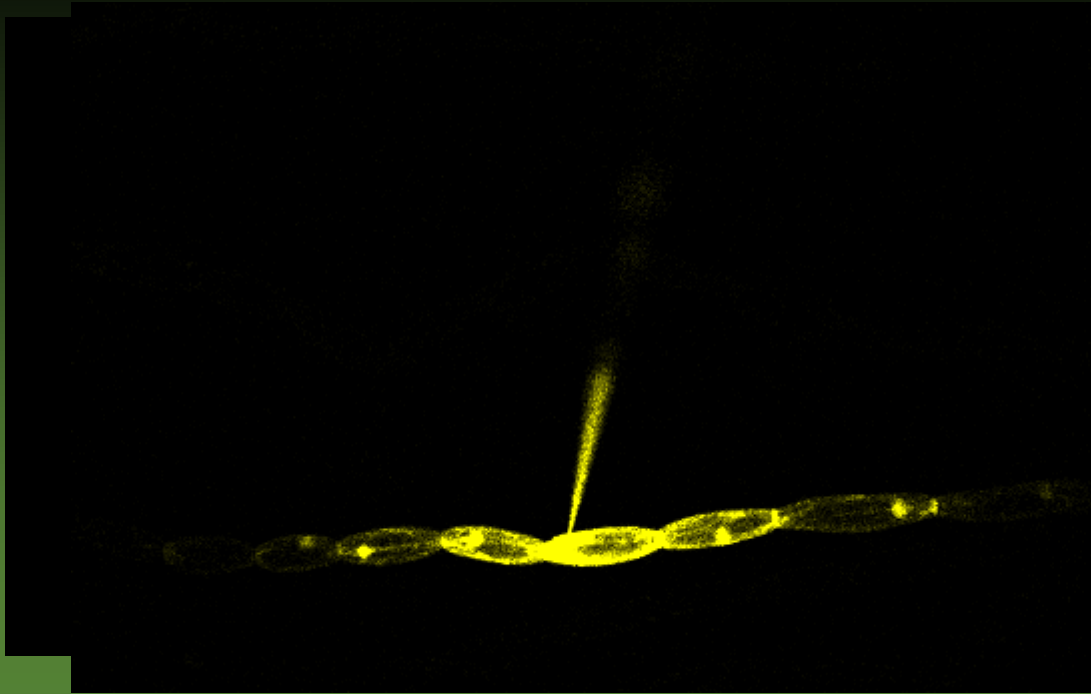
# Diffusive Injection Micropipette (DIMP)



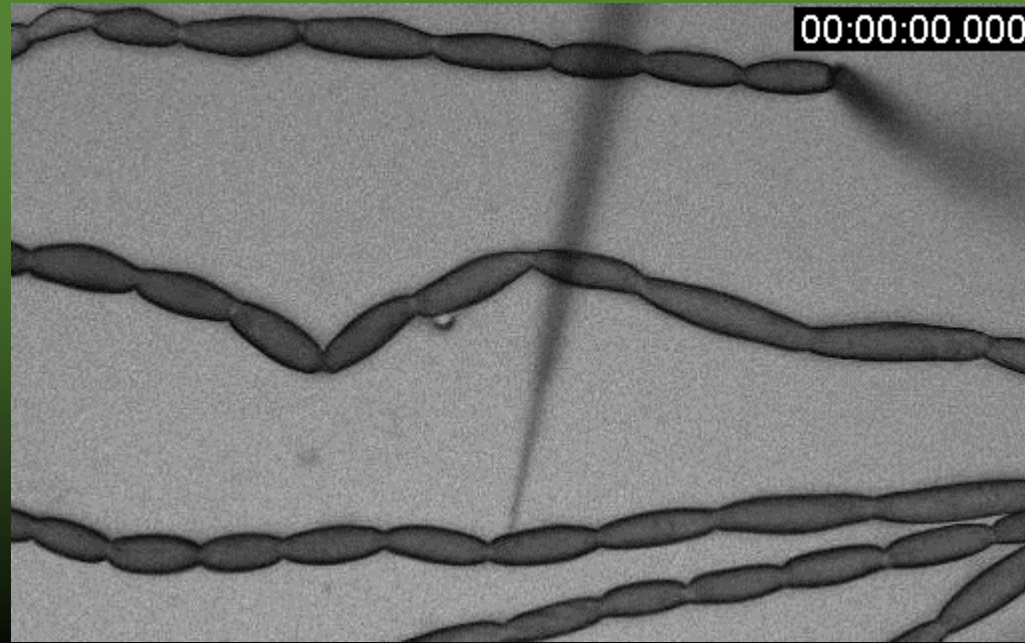
Dr. Alex Howell



HPTS



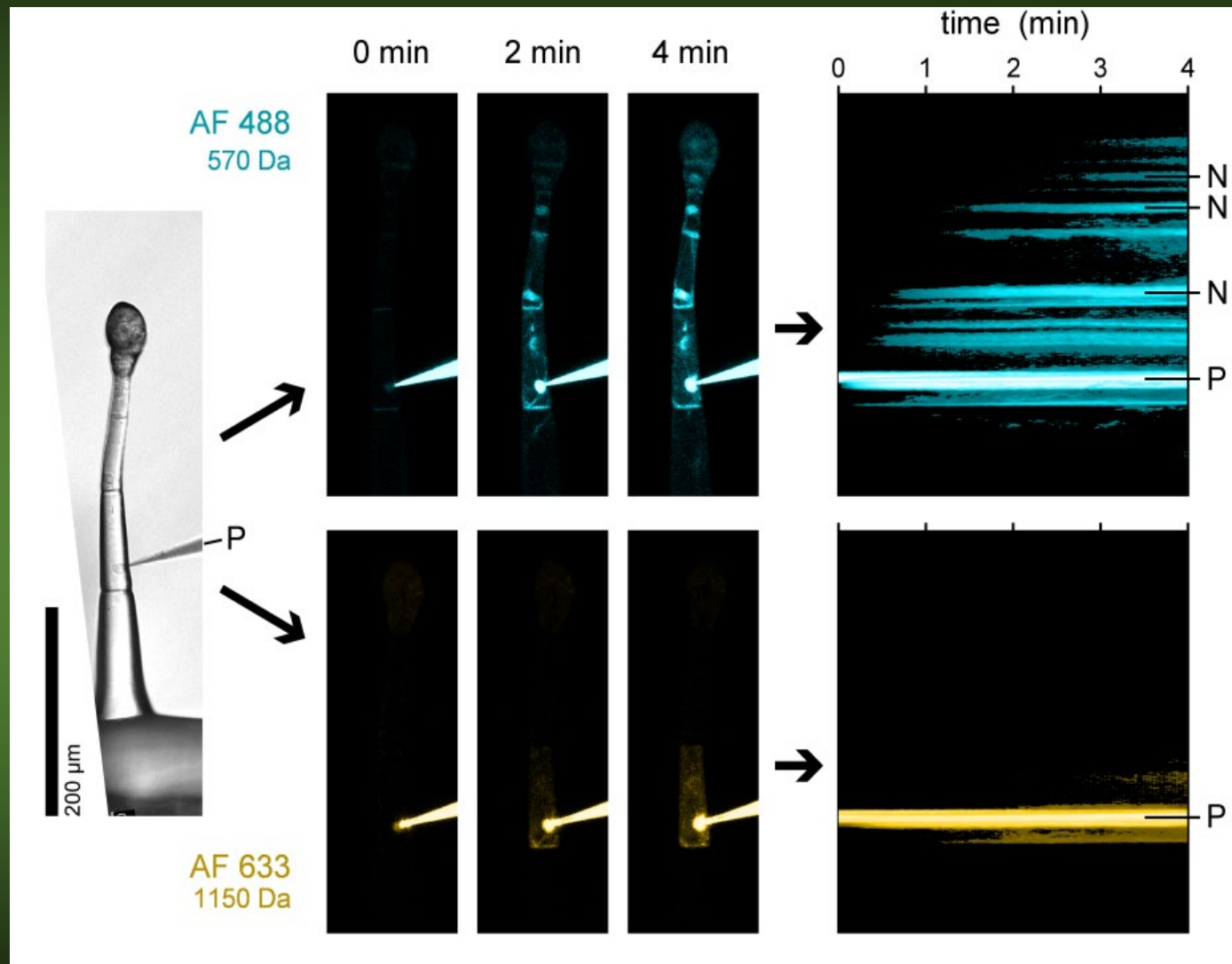
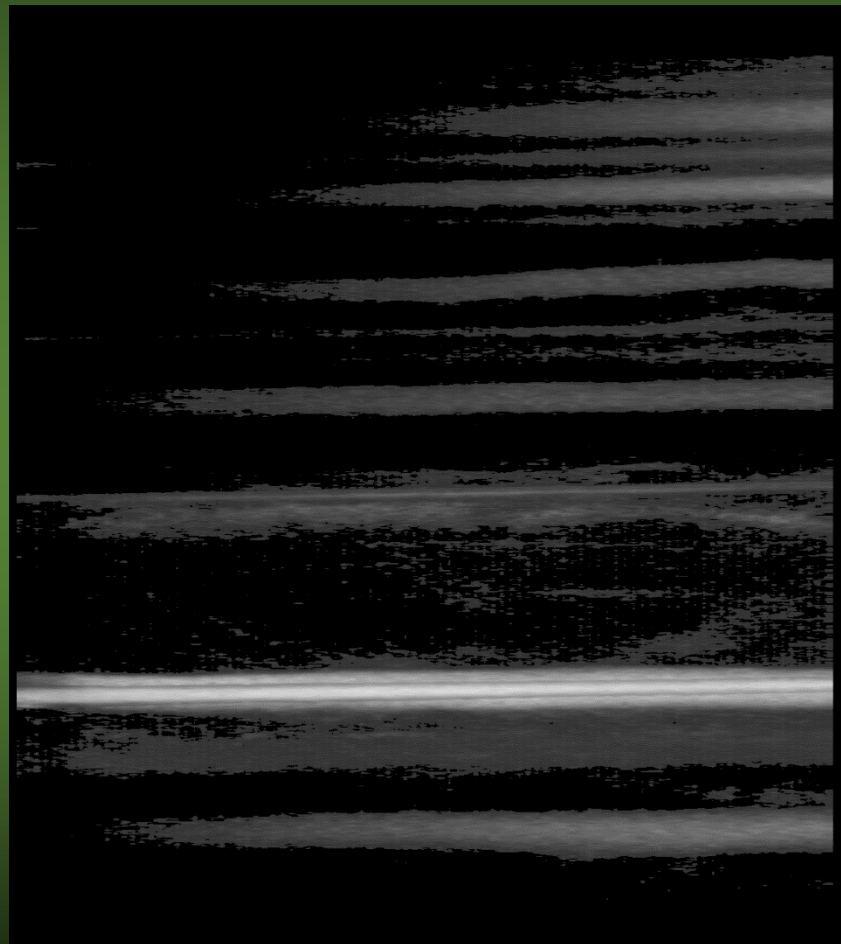
Cy5

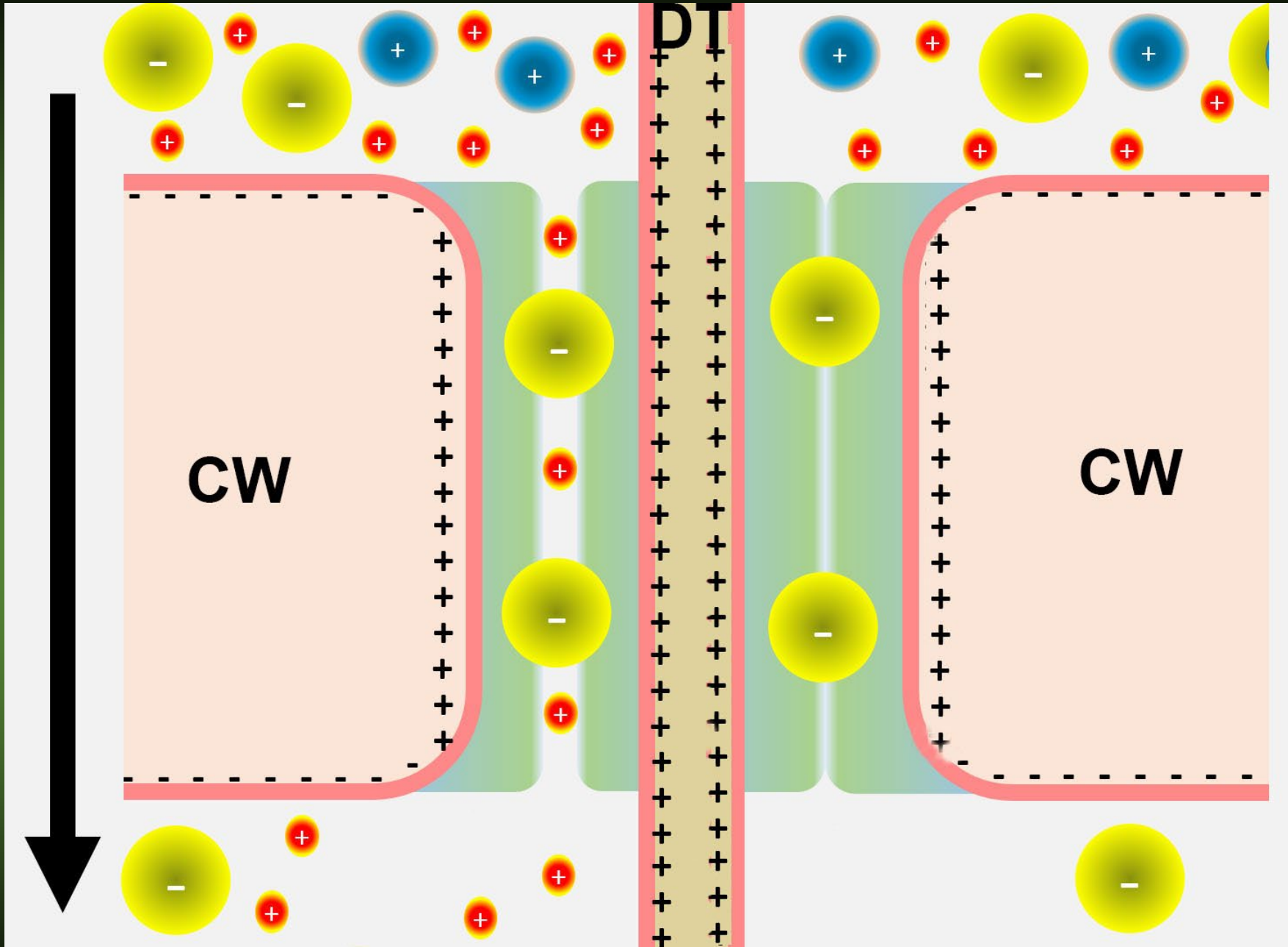




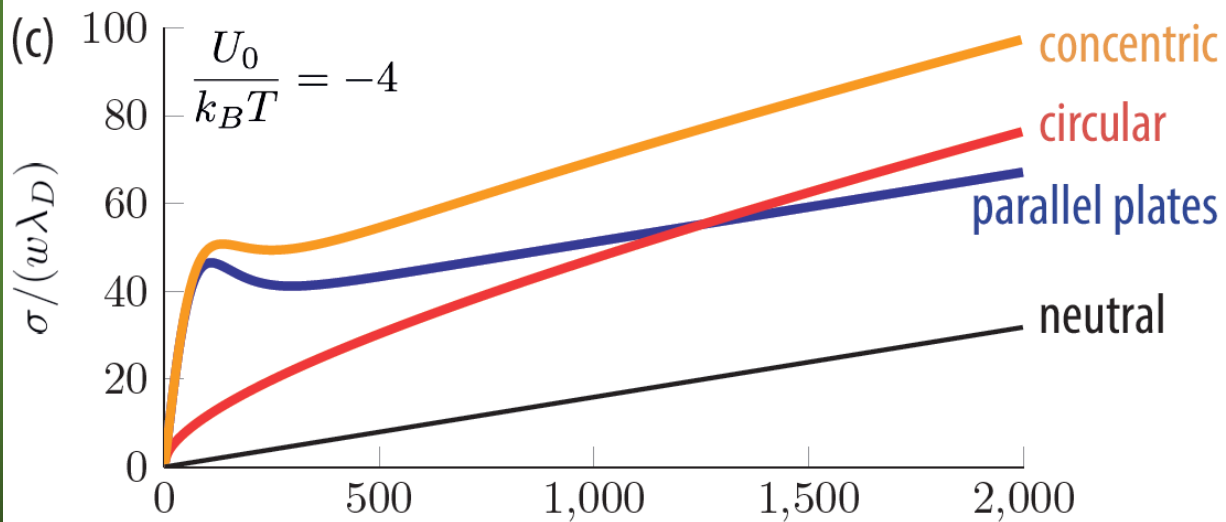
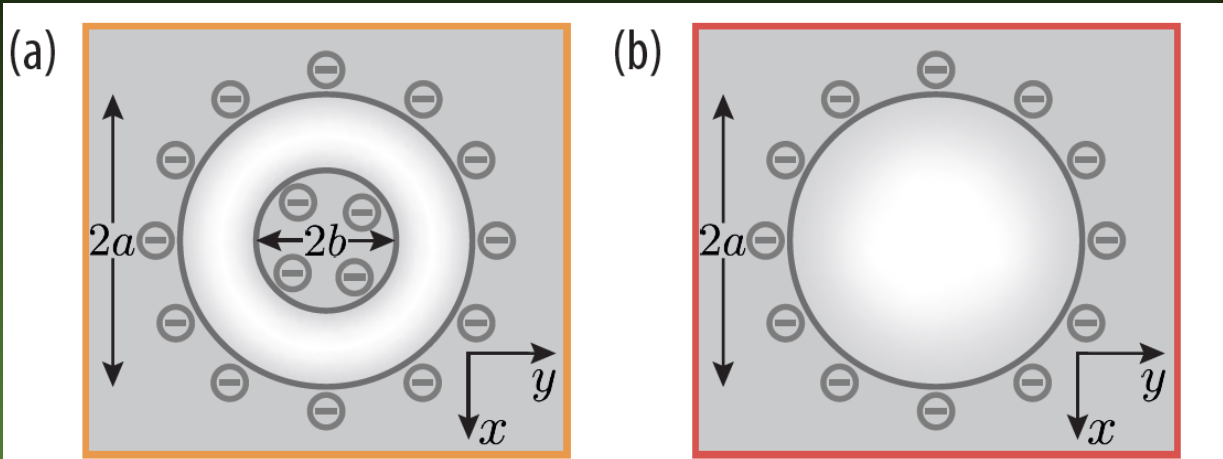
# DIMP Analysis

time

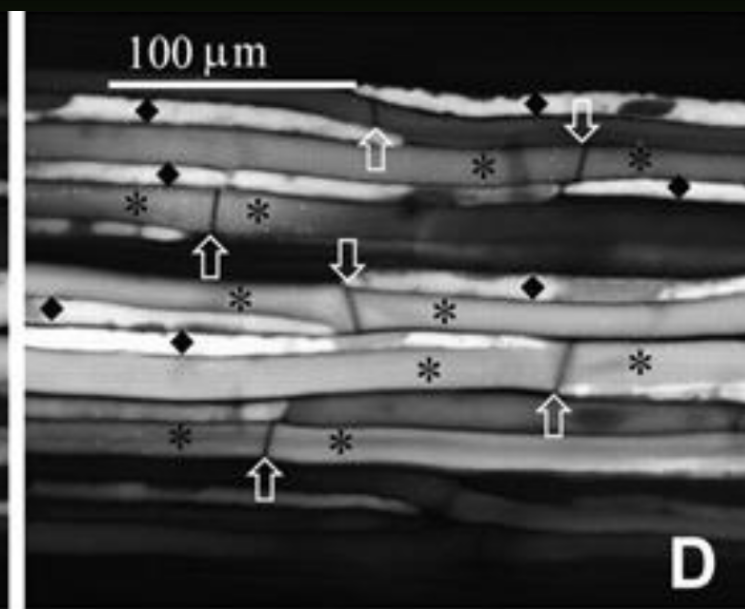
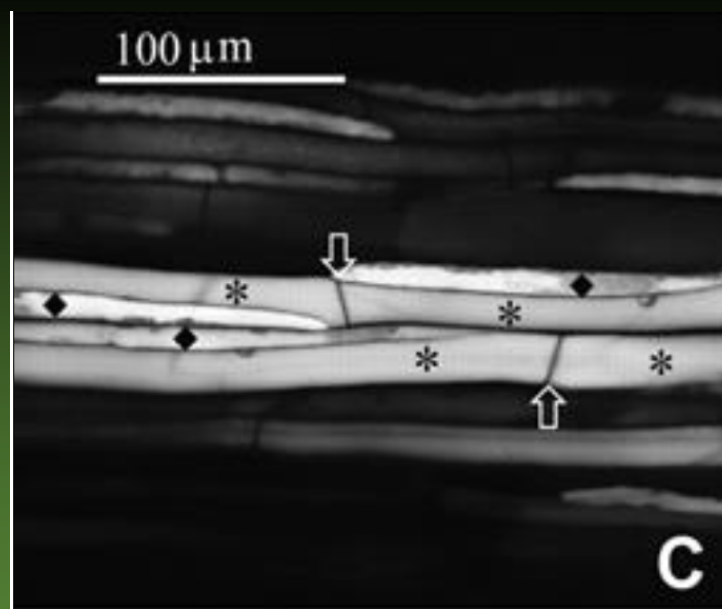
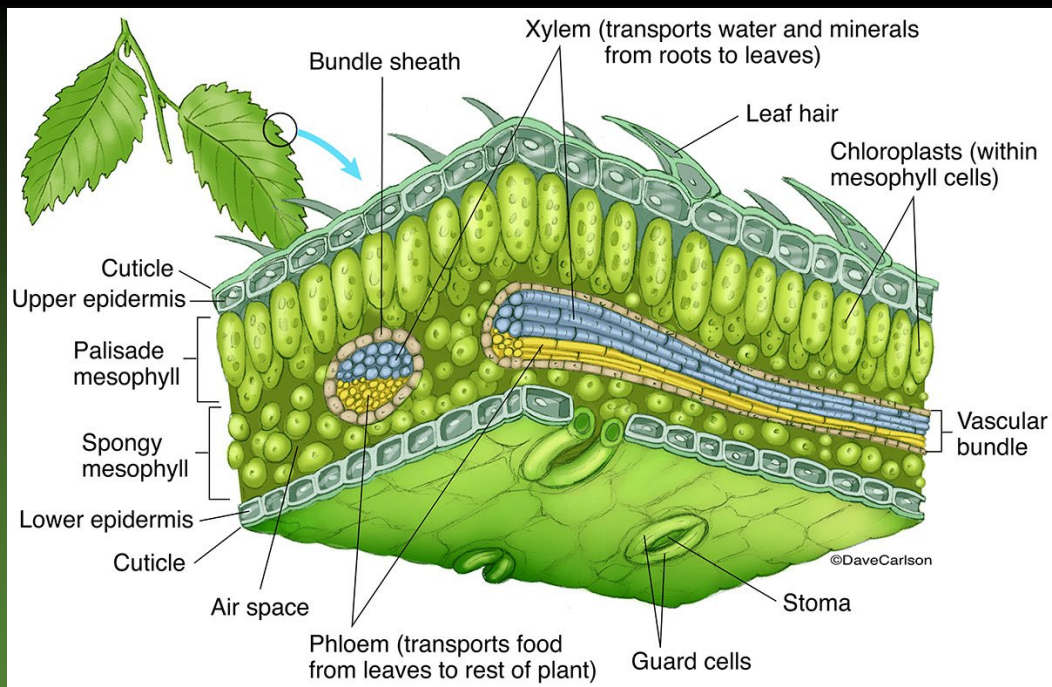




# Surface enhanced diffusion

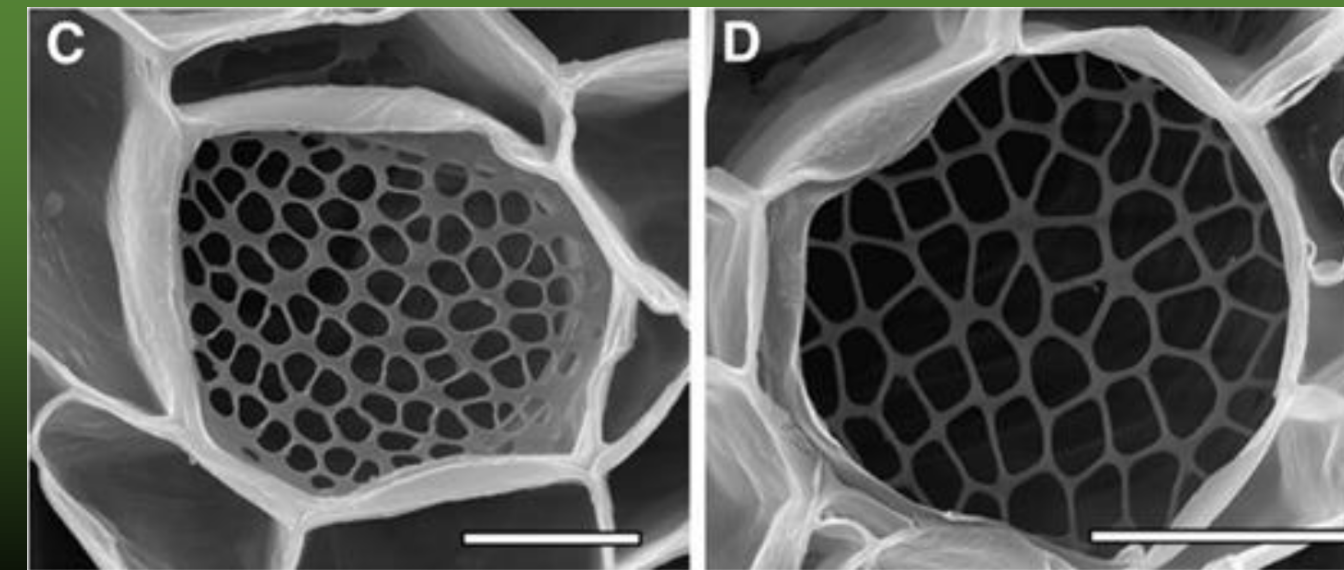


Anneline H. Christensen, Ankur Gupta, Guang Chen, Winfried S. Peters, Michael Knoblauch, Howard A. Stone, and Kaare H. Jensen 2023 Locally optimal geometry for surface-enhanced diffusion Phys. Rev. E 108, 045101-2023



From: [https://www.carlsonstockart.com/images/xl/Leaf-Structure\\_labeled.jpg](https://www.carlsonstockart.com/images/xl/Leaf-Structure_labeled.jpg)

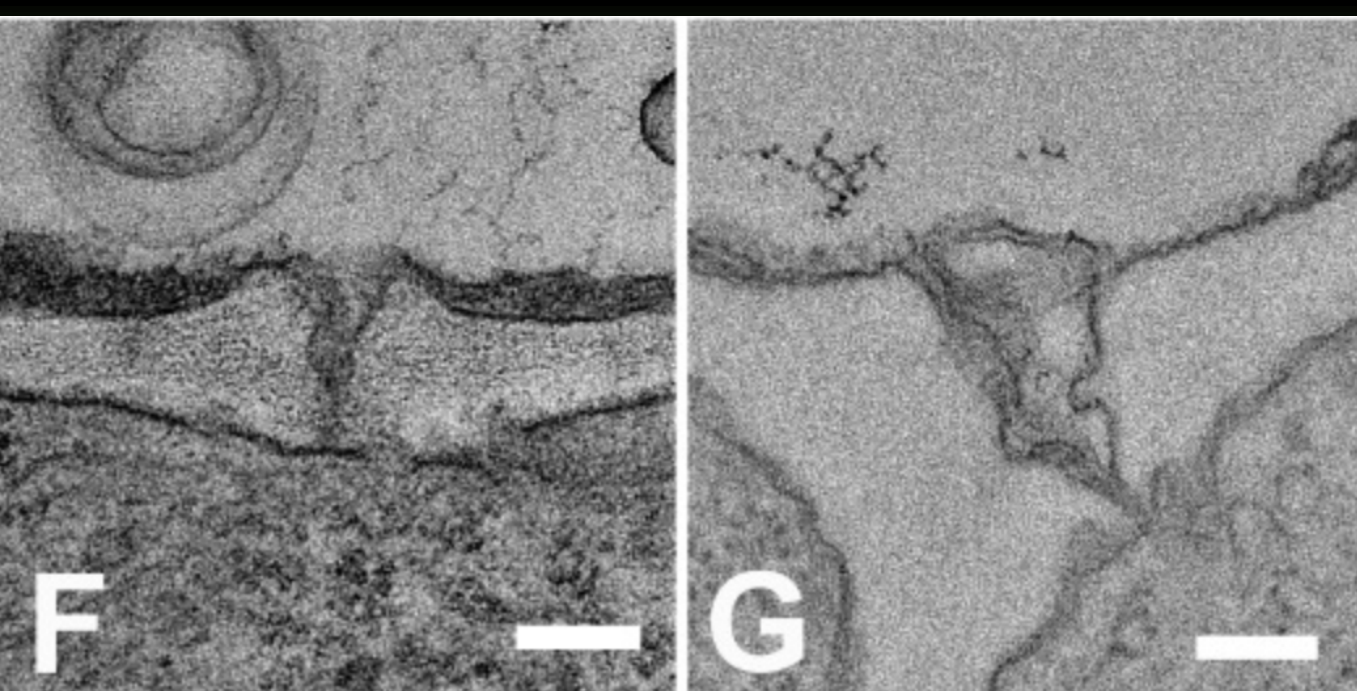
*Knoblauch M, VanBel AJE. Sieve tubes in action. The Plant Cell, Volume 10, Issue 1, January 1998, Pages 35–50*



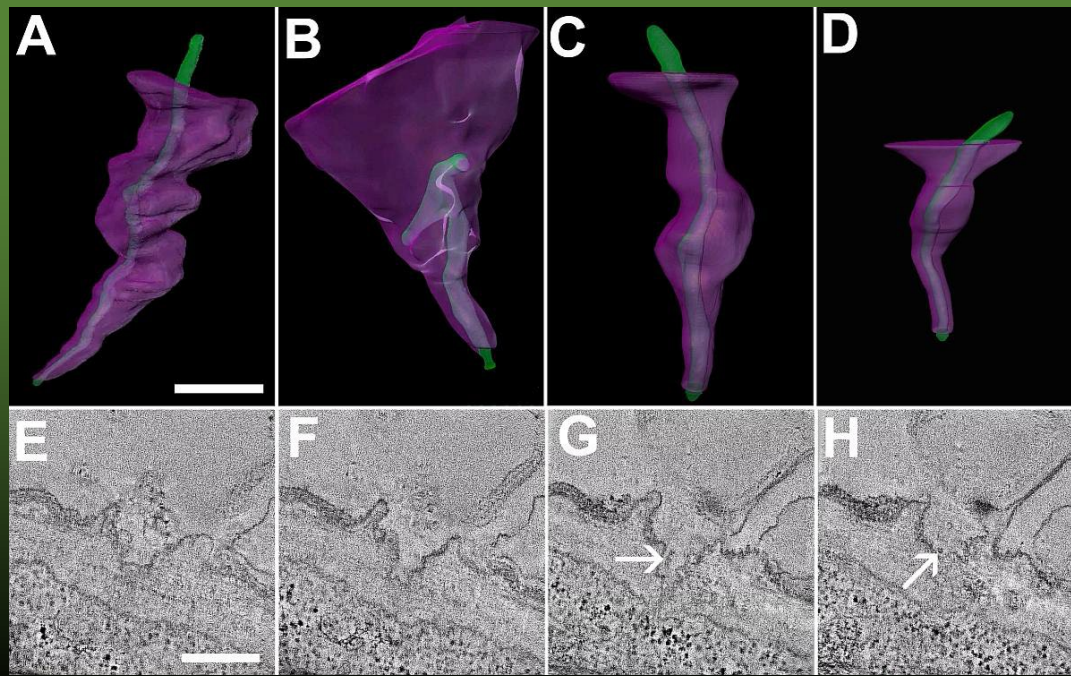
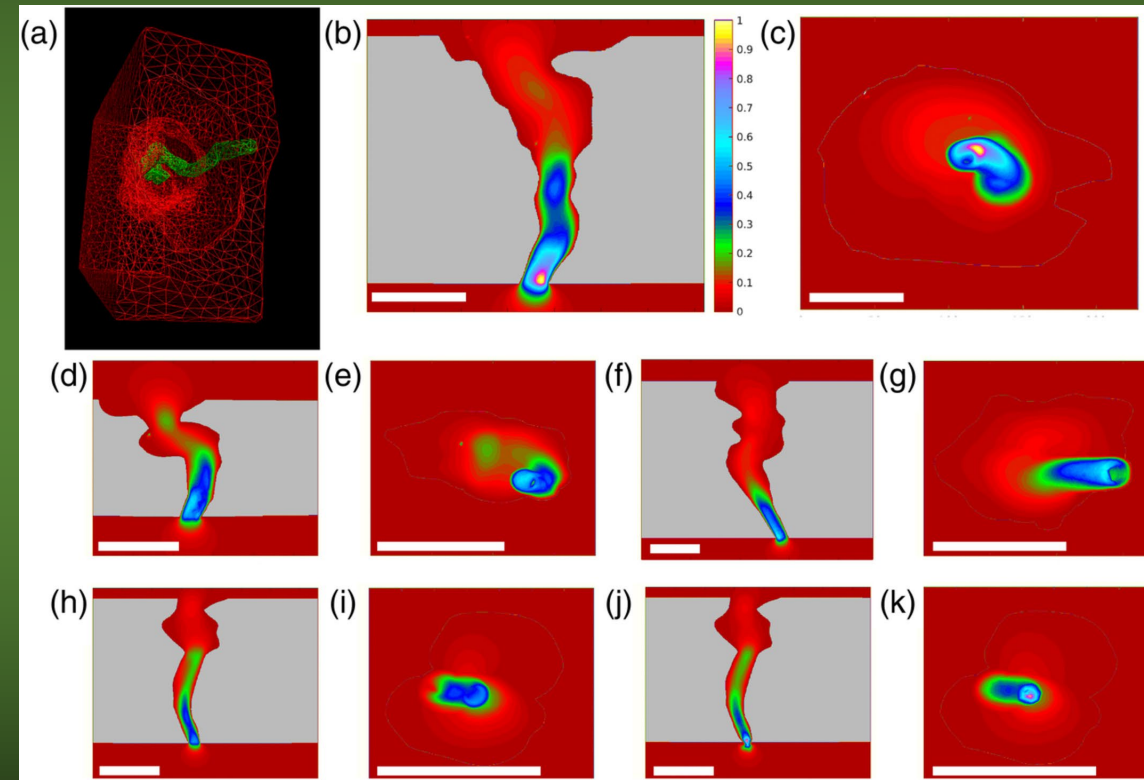
*Mullendore, DL, Windt C, Van As H, Knoblauch M 2010 Sieve tube geometry in relation to phloem flow. The Plant Cell, Volume 22, Pages 579–593*

# Phloem unloading



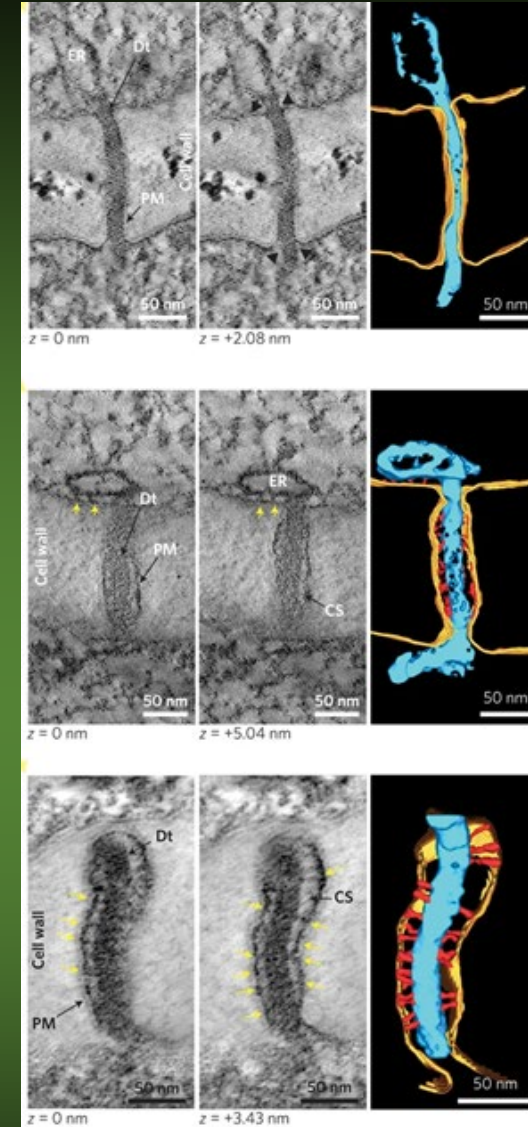
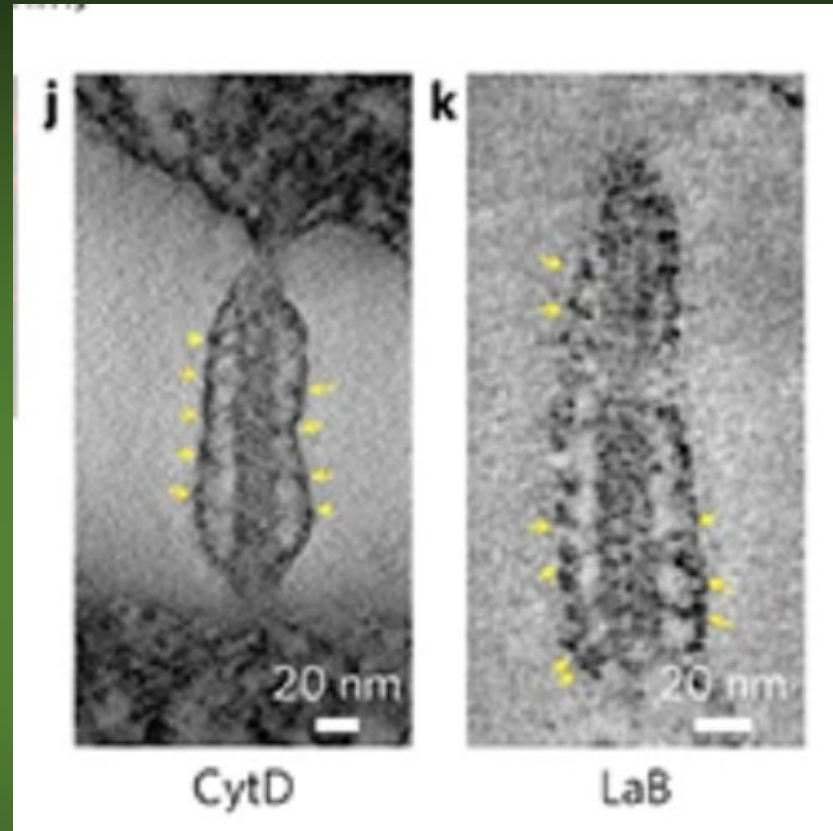
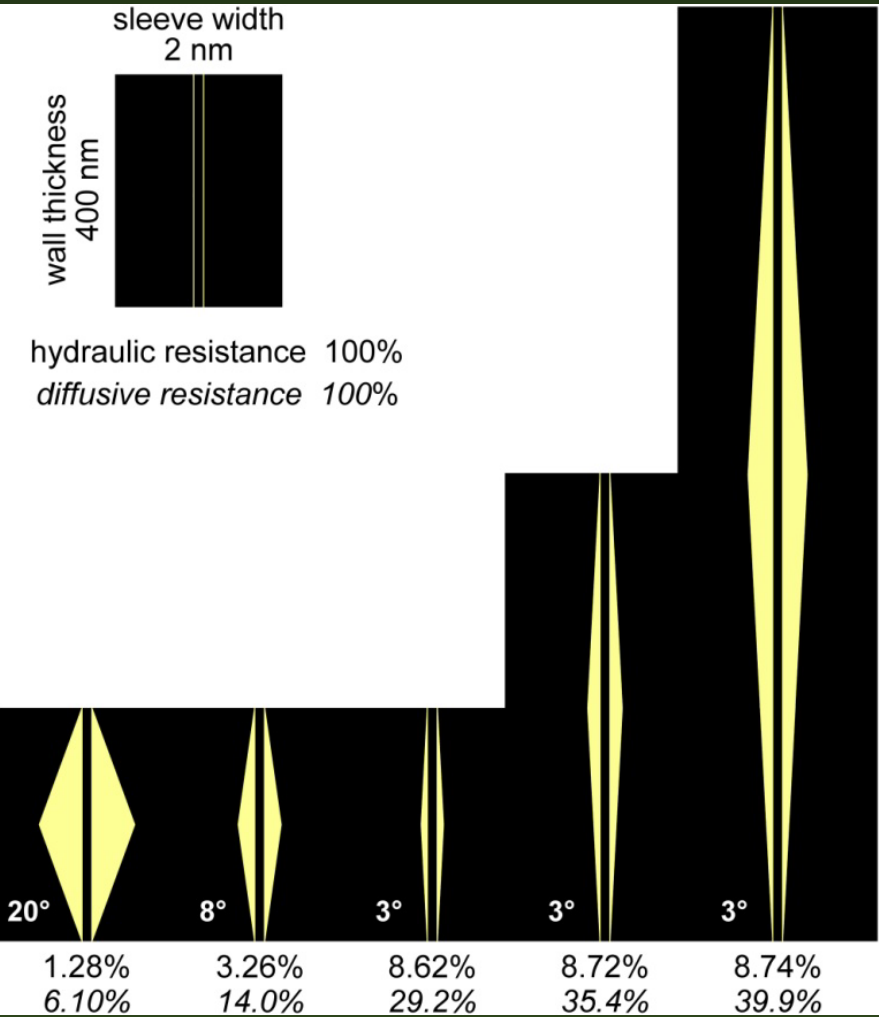


Ross Elliott et al. 2017 eLife Feb 23:6:e24125.



Ostermeyer et al. 2022, Diversity of funnel plasmodesmata in angiosperms: the impact of geometry on plasmodesmal resistance, *Plant Journal*, 2022, 110, 707-719.

# Effect of geometry on PD resistance



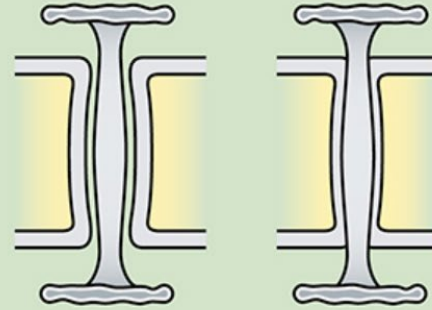
Ostermeyer et al. 2022, Diversity of funnel plasmodesmata in angiosperms: the impact of geometry on plasmodesmal resistance, *Plant Journal*, 2022, 110, 707-719.

From: Nicolas, W., Grison, M., Trépout, S. *et al.* Architecture and permeability of post-cytokinesis plasmodesmata lacking cytoplasmic sleeves. *Nature Plants* 3, 17082 (2017). <https://doi.org/10.1038/nplants.2017.82>

# Plasmodesma Diversity

## Plasmodesmata vary in morphology

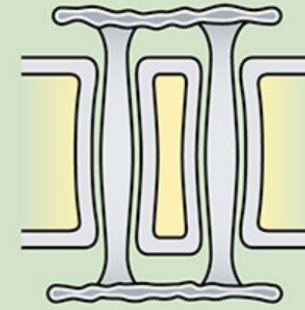
Simple



Single cytoplasmic strand

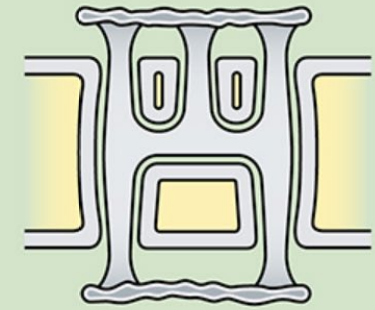
Initially may lack cytoplasmic sleeve

Twinned

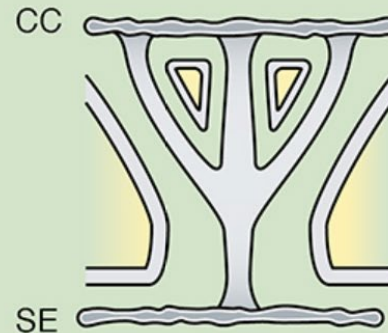


Secondary PD inserted next to simple PD; Branched PD have multiple cytoplasmic strands merged at the central cavity

Complex

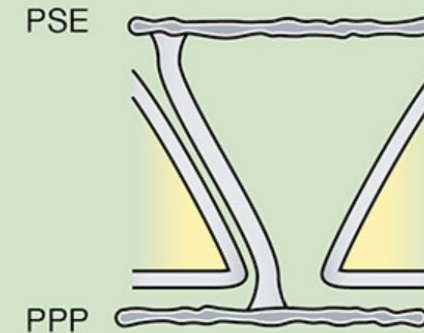


Plasmodesmata-pore unit



Formed at the companion cell and sieve element junction

Funnel



Formed at the phloem terminus in roots, between proto-SE and phloem pole pericycle cell

Ross E. Sager, Jung-Youn Lee;  
Plasmodesmata at a glance. *J Cell Sci* 1 June 2018; 131 (11): jcs209346. doi:  
<https://doi.org/10.1242/jcs.209346>



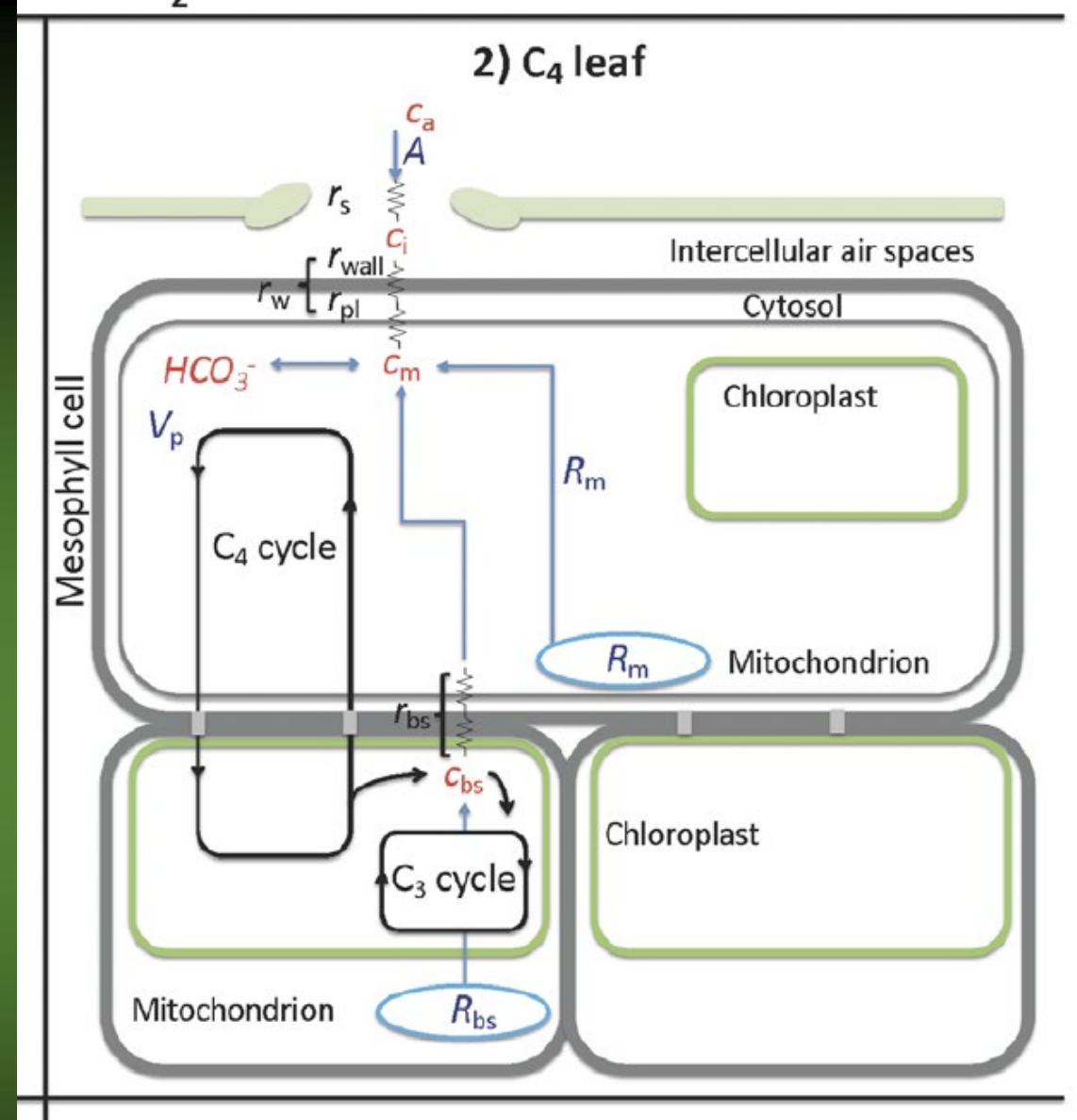
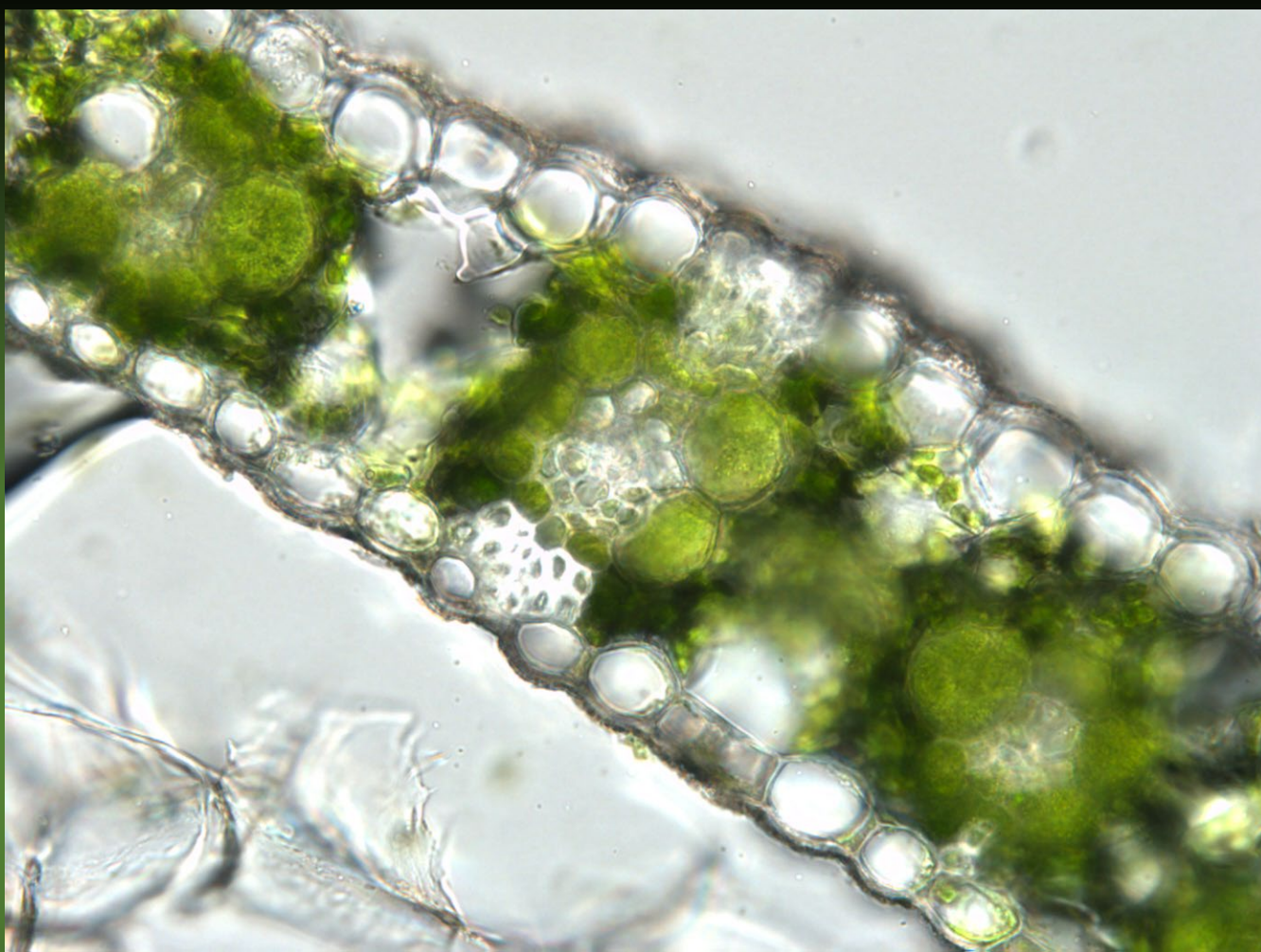
# We need artificial modifiable probes!

We tested commercially available, coated, water soluble **quantum dots** and **nanoclusters**. But all soluble probes we were able to acquire immediately bind to cellular components and do not remain soluble in the cytoplasm.

Probes need to be in the range of 0.5 nm to 10 nm diameter. Surface coatings need to be adjustable



<https://www.bu.edu/articles/2017/quantum-dots-breast-cancer-tumors/>



Probes to monitor fluxes in leaves (e.g. CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O)

# Thanks to:

## WSU

- Tim Ross-Elliott
- Alex Howell
- Viktoriya Vasina
- Vincent James
- Brittney Wager
- Jan Knoblauch
- Dan Mullendore
- Sierra Beecher
- Aaron Brookhouse
- Yuting Ji
- Yan Liu

Winfried Peters

(Purdue)

Karl Oparka

(Edinburgh)

Missy Holbrook

(Harvard)

Yka Helariutta

(Cambridge UK)

Kaare Jensen

(Copenhagen)

Howard Stone

(Princeton)

Henning Kunz

(Munich)

NSF

ARO

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