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## Quantification of endogenous auxin and cytokinin during internode culture of ipecac --Manuscript Draft--

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<b>Abstract:</b>	Adventitious shoot formation is an important technique for the propagation of economically important crops and for the regeneration of transgenic plants. Phytohormone treatment is required for the induction of adventitious shoots in most species. Whether adventitious shoots can be induced is determined by the balance between auxin and cytokinin levels. Much effort goes into determining optimum concentrations and combinations of phytohormones in each tissue used as explants and in each plant species. In ipecac, however, adventitious shoots can be induced on internodal segments in culture medium without phytohormone treatment. This allows the inherent plasticity of ipecac for cell differentiation to be evaluated. To induce adventitious shoots in ipecac, we cultured internodal segments at 24 °C under 15 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ of light in a 14-h light / 10-h dark cycle on phytohormone-free B5 medium solidified with 0.2% gellan gum for 5 weeks. To investigate phytohormone dynamics during adventitious shoot formation, we measured endogenous indole-3-acetic acid and cytokinins in the segments by LC-MS/MS. This method allows us to analyze endogenous indole-3-acetic acid and cytokinins levels simply. It can be applied to investigate dynamics of the endogenous auxin and cytokinin during organogenesis in other plant species.
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*Journal of Visualized Experiments*

Alisha DSouza

Review Editor

Dear Dr. Alisha DSouza,

With this letter, we are submitting a revised version of our manuscript (Ms. No. JoVE56902) entitled “**Quantification of endogenous auxin and cytokinin during internode culture in ipecac**”.

We thank the review editor and reviewers for their comments on our manuscript. We have revised it according to their comments, and describe our responses in detail in this letter. The revised parts of the manuscript are highlighted in **green**.

This manuscript contains 3 figures and 3 Tables.

We would appreciate it very much if you could consider the revised version of our manuscript for publication in *Journal of Visualized Experiments* again. We hope that our responses and the resulting changes are satisfactory, but we are happy to work with you and the reviewers to resolve any remaining issues. We look forward to your and reviewers’ comments.

Sincerely,

Mikihisa Umehara (on behalf of all authors)

**TITLE:**

Quantification of Endogenous Auxin and Cytokinin During Internode Culture of Ipecac

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**KEY WORDS:**

Adventitious shoot, auxin, *Carapichea ipecacuanha*, cytokinin, LC-MS/MS, phytohormone-free medium, plant regeneration

**SHORT ABSTRACT:**

Adventitious shoots can be induced on internodal segments of ipecac without phytohormone treatment. To evaluate phytohormone dynamics during adventitious shoot formation, we measured endogenous auxin and cytokinin in internodal segments by LC-MS/MS.

**LONG ABSTRACT:**

Adventitious shoot formation is an important technique for the propagation of economically important crops and for the regeneration of transgenic plants. Phytohormone treatment is required for the induction of adventitious shoots in most species. Whether adventitious shoots can be induced is determined by the balance between auxin and cytokinin (CK) levels. Much effort goes into determining optimum concentrations and combinations of phytohormones in each tissue used as explants and in each plant species. In ipecac, however, adventitious shoots can be induced on internodal segments in culture medium without phytohormone treatment. This allows the inherent plasticity of ipecac for cell differentiation to be evaluated. To induce adventitious shoots in ipecac, we cultured internodal segments at 24 °C under 15  $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  of light in a 14-h light/10-h dark cycle on phytohormone-free B5 medium solidified with 0.2% gellan gum for 5 weeks. To investigate phytohormone dynamics during adventitious shoot formation, we measured endogenous indole-3-acetic acid and CKs in the segments by liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry LC-MS/MS. This method allows analysis of endogenous indole-3-acetic acid and CKs levels in a simple manner. It can be applied to investigate the dynamics of endogenous auxin and CK during organogenesis in other plant species.

## INTRODUCTION:

Gottlieb Haberlandt (1854–1945) proposed the concept of “totipotency”, by which plant cells can divide, differentiate, and regenerate whole plants even after their prior differentiation into specific cell types in mature plants<sup>1</sup>. In tissue culture, whether plant regeneration can be induced or not is determined by the combination and concentration of exogenously applied phytohormones in the growth medium. Skoog and Miller found that adventitious shoots could be induced from tobacco callus on culture medium containing a high ratio of CKs to auxins, whereas adventitious roots could be induced on medium containing a low ratio<sup>2</sup>. Since that finding, tissue culture has been widely used for the propagation of economically important crops and for the regeneration of transgenic plants<sup>3</sup>. Adventitious shoots can be induced from tissues other than shoot apical meristem, such as leaves, roots, and internodes. Phytohormone treatment is required for the induction of adventitious shoots in most plant species. However, the optimum concentrations and combinations differ by species and among tissues used as explants. Thus, much effort goes into determining the optimum concentrations and combinations of phytohormones for experiments.

*Carapichea ipecacuanha* (Brot.) L. Andersson (ipecac) is a medicinal plant that contains alkaloids such as emetine and cephaeline, mainly in the roots<sup>4</sup>. Root extracts are used as an expectorant, an emetic, and an amoebicide<sup>5</sup>. Although ipecac grows naturally in the tropical rainforests of Brazil, it is reluctant to set seeds in culture, and the germination rate decreases during seed storage in Japan, with its colder climate<sup>6</sup>. Instead, it is propagated by tissue culture, in which adventitious shoot formation on internodes is the most efficient method<sup>7,8</sup>. Interestingly, adventitious shoots can be induced in this species without phytohormone treatment<sup>8</sup>.

Adventitious shoots are formed on the epidermis in the apical region of internodal segments without callusing, but not in the basal region<sup>9</sup>. This difference indicates tissue polarity in internodal segments, which is probably under phytohormonal regulation. The ipecac culture system allows a unique opportunity to analyze changes in endogenous phytohormone levels during adventitious shoot formation. Here we introduce our method for the analysis of the endogenous levels of one auxin (indole-3-acetic acid (IAA)) and four CKs (isopentenyl adenine (iP), isopentenyl adenine riboside (iPR), *trans*-zeatin (tZ), and *trans*-zeatin riboside (tZR)) in internodal segments through the use of LC-MS/MS.

## PROTOCOL:

Note: Ipecac (*C. ipecacuanha*) was used in this study because it facilitates the analysis of endogenous phytohormones.

### 1. Growth Conditions to Induce Adventitious Shoots of Ipecac

1.1. Prepare phytohormone-free B5 medium adjusted to pH 5.7<sup>10</sup>, and add 0.2% gellan gum. Sterilize by autoclaving.



- 1.2. Pour 25 mL of the autoclaved medium into a sterile Petri dish (90 mm × 20 mm).
- 1.3. Cut 8-mm internodal segments of ipecac plantlets using a surgical scalpel with a blade No. 22 on a sterile acrylic plate, and place on the medium (**Figure 1**).
- 1.4. Culture on phytohormone-free B5 medium at 24 °C under 15  $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  of light in a 14-h light/10-h dark cycle for 5 weeks.
- 1.5. Identify regions I (apical) to IV (basal) in each segment (**Figure 1B**). Count the number of adventitious shoots > 0.3 mm length in each region under a microscope once a week.

## **2. Extraction and Purification of Phytohormones**

- 2.1. Put a 5-mm zirconia bead in each of the four 2-mL sample tubes.
- 2.2. Cut the segments into regions I to IV (each 2 mm in length) using a surgical scalpel on a sterile acrylic plate.
- 2.3. Collect eight segments of each region in separate sample tubes (10–30 mg fresh weight).
- 2.4. Weigh, and then freeze the samples in liquid nitrogen.
- 2.5. Crush the frozen samples using a bead-based homogenizer.
- 2.6. Suspend the crushed samples in 1 mL acetonitrile containing 500 pg of each internal standard of auxin and CKs ( $d_5$ -IAA,  $d_5$ -tZ,  $d_5$ -tZR,  $d_6$ -iP,  $d_6$ -iPR) using a vortex mixer.
- 2.7. Hold at 4 °C for 1 h, then centrifuge at  $3,500 \times g$  for 5 min at 4 °C.
- 2.8. Wash the pellet in 80% (v/v) acetonitrile containing 1% (v/v) acetic acid. Centrifuge again at  $3,500 \times g$  for 5 min at 4 °C. Combine the supernatants (from steps 2.7 and 2.8) in a disposable glass tube.
- 2.9. Add 600  $\mu\text{L}$  water containing 1% (v/v) acetic acid to each combined supernatant, and evaporate the acetonitrile using a vacuum concentrator.
- 2.10. Equilibrate hydrophilic-lipophilic-balanced (HLB) column cartridges by applying 1 mL each of acetonitrile, methanol, and water containing 1% (v/v) acetic acid.
- 2.11. Apply one sample solution per equilibrated HLB cartridge.
- 2.12. Wash the cartridges with 1 mL water containing 1% (v/v) acetic acid.
- 2.13. Elute all hormones with 2 mL 80% (v/v) acetonitrile containing 1% (v/v) acetic acid in a glass

tube.

2.14. Evaporate the acetonitrile in the eluate to obtain extract in water containing 1% (v/v) acetic acid using a vacuum concentrator.

Note: Do not dry this completely.

2.15. Equilibrate mixed-mode, strong cation-exchange (MCX) column cartridges by applying 1 mL acetonitrile, 1 mL methanol, 0.5 mL 0.1 M HCl, and 1 mL water containing 1% (v/v) acetic acid.

2.16. Apply one sample solution per equilibrated MCX cartridge.

2.17. Wash the cartridges with 1 mL water containing 1% (v/v) acetic acid.

2.18. Elute IAA with 2 mL 30% (v/v) acetonitrile containing 1% (v/v) acetic acid in a glass tube.

2.19. Wash the cartridges with 2 mL 80% (v/v) acetonitrile containing 1% (v/v) acetic acid.

2.20. Wash the cartridges with 2 mL water and 1 mL water containing 5% aqueous ammonia.

2.21. Elute the CKs with 2 mL 60% (v/v) acetonitrile containing 5% aqueous ammonia in a glass tube.

2.22. Evaporate the solvent of each hormone fraction using a vacuum concentrator and store at  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$  until the LC-MS/MS analysis.

### 3. LC-MS/MS Analysis of IAA and CKs

3.1. Dissolve each hormone extract in a tube with 600  $\mu\text{L}$  of methanol and transfer the solution to a screw neck total recovery vial. Evaporate the solvent using a vacuum concentrator.

3.2. Dissolve the IAA fraction in 20  $\mu\text{L}$  30% (v/v) acetonitrile, and the CK fractions in 20  $\mu\text{L}$  water containing 1% (v/v) acetic acid in screw neck total recovery vials.

3.3. Analyze the samples in positive ion mode on a triple-quadrupole MS system equipped with an HPLC system.

Note: We set the HPLC conditions as listed in **Table 1**.

3.3.1. For the IAA elution, use a binary gradient of 5%–50% solvent B over 7 min, then increase by 98% solvent B and hold for 1 min, and then equilibrate for 2 min at 5% solvent B by next injection.

3.3.2. For the CK elution, use a binary gradient of 2%–40% solvent B over 5 min, 40%–70% solvent

B in 7 min, then increase by 95% solvent B and hold for 1 min, and then equilibrate for 2 min at 2% solvent B by nest injection.

3.3.4. Set the electrospray ionization (ESI)-MS parameters of ion source as listed in **Table 2**.

3.4. Use the multiple reaction monitoring (MRM) transition for quantification of each analyte listed in **Table 3**.

3.5. Quantify endogenous IAA and CK levels against a standard curve of the ratio of unlabeled to deuterium-labeled standards.

#### **REPRESENTATIVE RESULTS:**

At the 1<sup>st</sup> week, no adventitious shoots had formed. At the 2<sup>nd</sup> week, small shoots appeared. At the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> weeks, the number of shoots increased mostly in the apical regions (I and II) (**Figure 2A**). At the 5<sup>th</sup> week, the number of shoots was approximately 7 in region I and 5 in region II (**Figure 2B**). In contrast, only a few shoots were formed in regions III and IV.

Before culture, the IAA level was slightly higher in region I (4.1 pg/mg, fresh weight (FW)) than in regions II–IV (~ 2.5 pg/mg FW; **Figure 3**). At the 1<sup>st</sup> week, the IAA level increased greatly in region IV (11.4 pg/mg FW) and decreased slightly in regions I–III (1.5–2.2 pg/mg FW). At the 2<sup>nd</sup> week, the IAA level in region IV decreased to ~ 4.4 pg/mg FW, indicating that IAA accumulation in the basal region was transient. By 5 weeks of culture, an IAA concentration gradient emerged, with levels increasing from region I to region IV.

Before culture, there were only trace levels of most CKs (**Figure 3**). At the 1<sup>st</sup> week, the tZR level increased to 13.8 pg/mg FW in region II and to 18.1 pg/mg FW in region III. The levels then decreased gradually over 5 weeks of culture. On the other hand, the levels of tZ, iP, and iPR changed only slightly during culture.

#### **FIGURE AND TABLE LEGENDS:**

**Figure 1: Preparation of ipecac for adventitious shoot formation.** (A) An internodal segment (8 mm long) is cut from regenerated ipecac on a clean bench. (B) The first internode was used for adventitious shoot formation. (C) Segments are cultured on 25 mL phytohormone-free B5 medium in Petri dishes to induce adventitious shoots. Scale bar = 1 cm.

**Figure 2: Distribution of adventitious shoots formed on an internodal segment.** (A) Adventitious shoots formed after 0 to 5 weeks of culture. Scale bar = 5 mm. (B) Segments were partitioned into four regions (I–IV), and the number of adventitious shoots in each region was counted at week 5. Data are means ± SEM (*n* = 3). Ten segments were used in each experiment. N.F. = not found. This figure has been modified from Koike *et al.*<sup>9</sup>

**Figure 3: Time-course analysis of phytohormone levels in internodal segments.** Segments were separated into four regions (I–IV). Endogenous IAA and CKs (tZ, tZR, iP, and iPR) in each region

were quantified by LC-MS/MS. Because iP and iPR levels were very low, a zoomed graph was inserted inside the same graph. Data are means  $\pm$  SEM ( $n = 3$ ). Eight segments were used in each experiment. This figure has been modified from Koike *et al.*<sup>9</sup>

**Table 1: HPLC condition in IAA and CK analysis.**

**Table 2: Parameters of ion source.** \*arbitrary units. \*\*IAA analysis/CK analysis. This table has been modified from Koike *et al.*<sup>9</sup>

**Table 3: MRM transitions of IAA and CKs in LC-MS/MS analysis.** This table has been modified from Koike *et al.*<sup>9</sup>

**DISCUSSION:**

To identify the distribution of phytohormones involved in organogenesis, it is important to use plant materials in which organogenesis can be observed on phytohormone-free medium, because when phytohormones are exogenously applied to explants for inducing shoots or roots, they affect the whole explant, making it difficult to evaluate the inherent plasticity of plants in cell differentiation and organogenesis. Adventitious shoots can be induced on phytohormone-free culture media in other plant species such as *Dianthus caryophyllus* L.<sup>11</sup>, *Aegle marmelos* (L.) Corrêa<sup>12</sup>, *Bacopa monnieri* (L.) Pennell<sup>13</sup>, *Celastrus paniculatus* Willd.<sup>14</sup>, and *Kalanchoë blossfeldiana* Poelln.<sup>15</sup>. It would be possible to apply the protocol in these plant species.

We extracted IAA, tZ, tZR, iP, and iPR in acetonitrile and purified them by solid-phase extraction. The original method uses three types of cartridge columns (HLB, MCX, and weak anion exchange (WAX)) because all phytohormones are purified (including gibberellins, abscisic acid, jasmonic acid, and salicylic acid)<sup>16</sup>. The HLB column uses a polymeric reverse-phase sorbent, the MCX column uses the same with cation-exchange groups, and the WAX column uses the same with weak anion-exchange groups. The original method elutes CKs (basic) with 60% acetonitrile containing aqueous ammonia on an MCX column in the second step, and then IAA (acidic) with 80% acetonitrile containing 1% acetic acid on a WAX column in the last step. As our focus is auxin and CKs, which interact antagonistically to regulate plant growth<sup>17</sup>, the simplified protocol uses only the HLB and MCX columns; IAA is eluted with 30% acetonitrile containing 1% acetic acid on the HLB column in the first step. It takes two days from sample preparation to LC-MS/MS analysis.

The acetonitrile solvent should not be allowed to dry out during phytohormone purification in the cartridge columns. If it does, resuspend the sample in acetonitrile to prevent the phytohormones from becoming stuck to the glass tube and lost from the sample. In this protocol, the detection limit with the ion-trap MS system is  $\sim 10$  pg for IAA and CKs from 10–30 mg fresh tissues. To analyze smaller amounts, it would be necessary to collect much more sample or to use MS with higher sensitivity.

Phytohormone analysis is an important technique for the evaluation of plant growth and development. Using this method, we might be able to determine the timing of auxin and CK treatment for adventitious shoot formation in plant species where the optimum culture

condition is still unknown. As phytohormone quantification becomes increasingly important, the LC-MS/MS protocol described here will enable the analysis of small samples with high sensitivity and resolution. Our simplification of a previous method will facilitate purification and analysis, and bring high versatility and reproducibility. In the future, this method can be applied to investigate the dynamics of the endogenous auxin and CK during organogenesis in other plant species.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

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#### DISCLOSURES:

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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Fig. 1

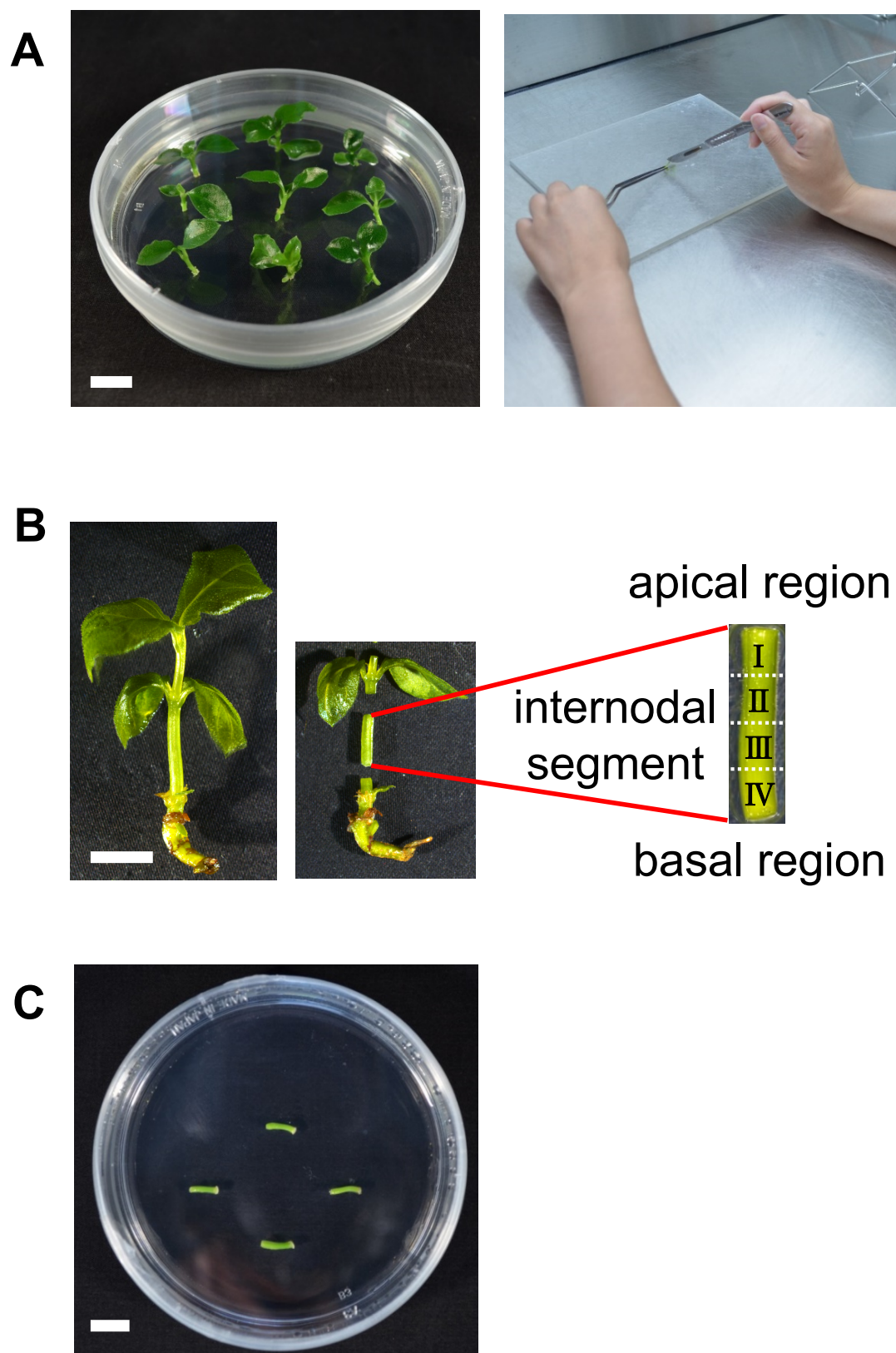


Fig. 2

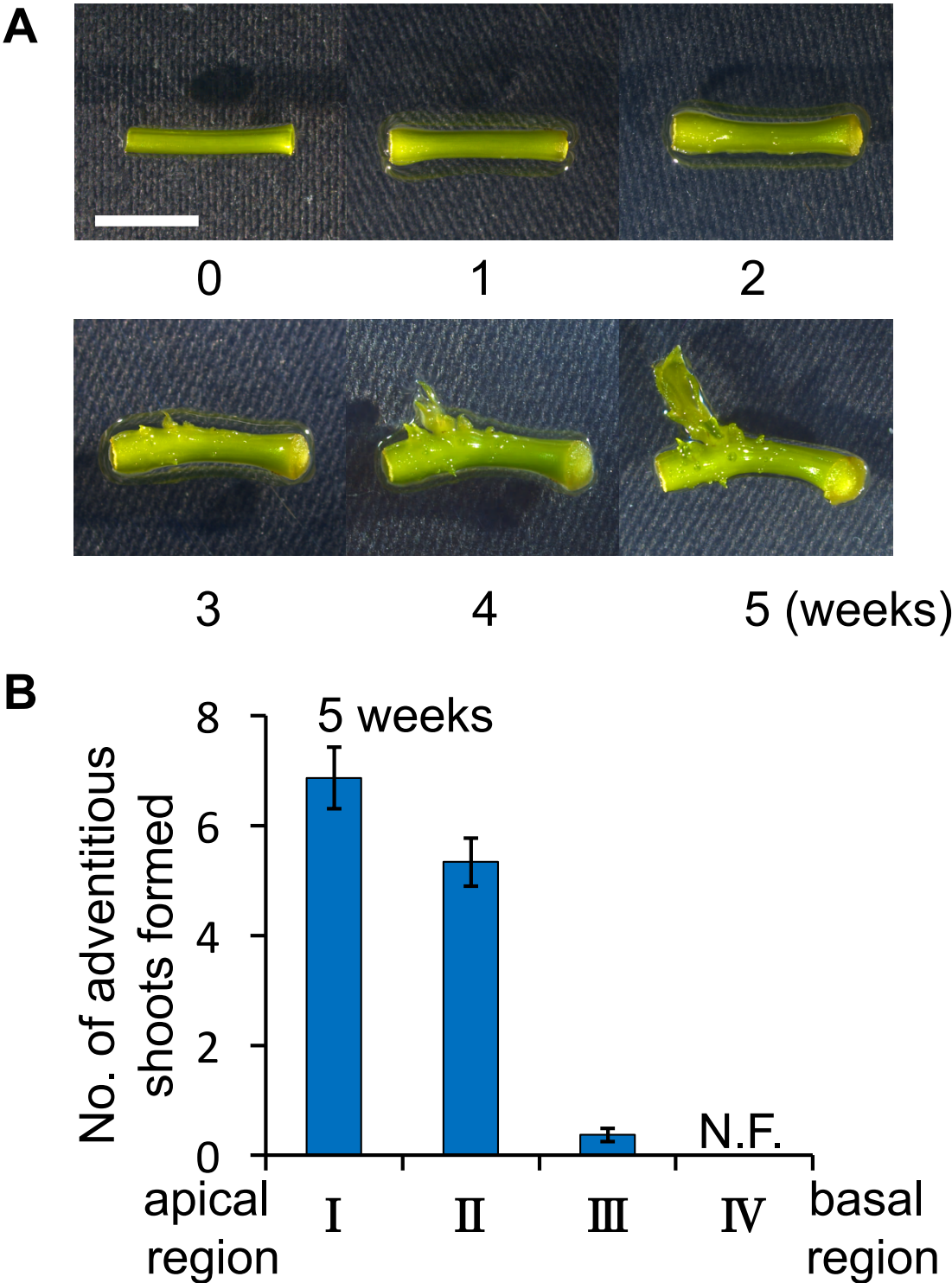
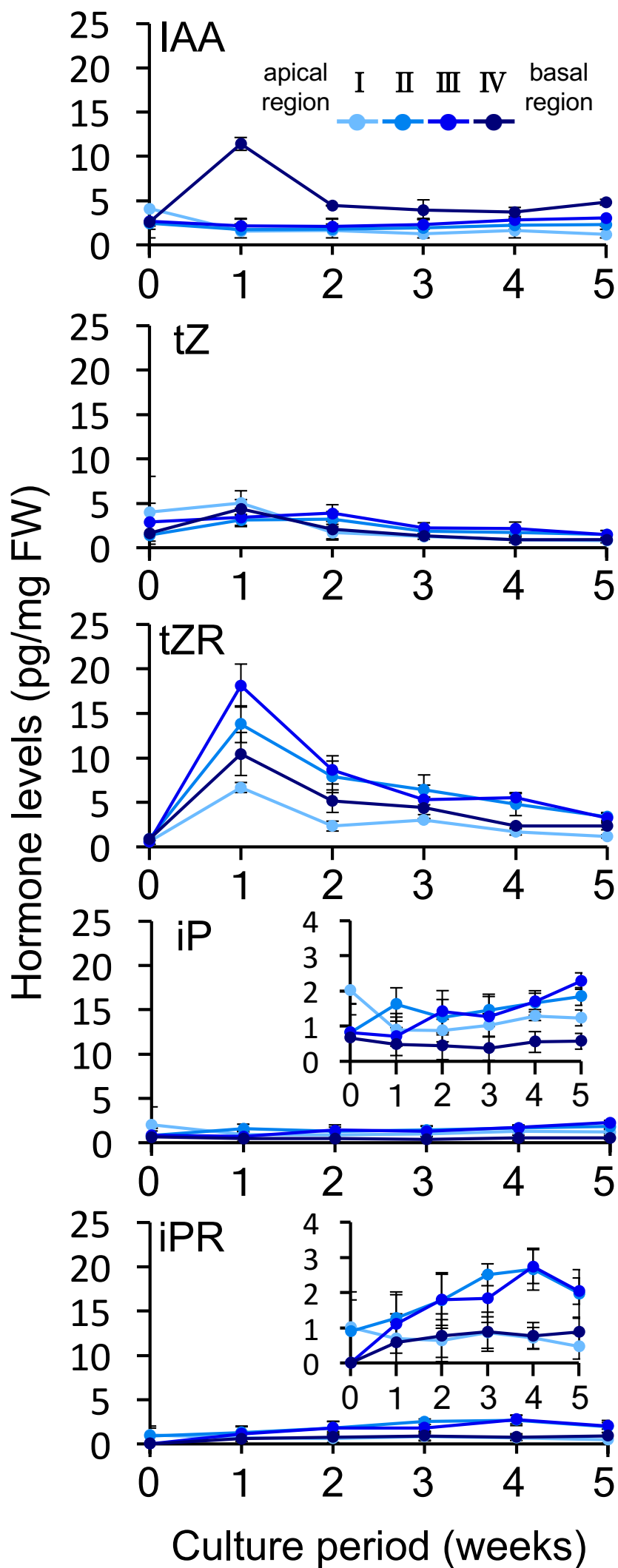




Fig. 3



**Table 1. HPLC condition in IAA and CK analysis**

Column	IAA: ACQUITY BEH C18 φ2.1×100 1.7 μm CKs: Poroshell EC-C18 φ2.1×50 2.7 μm
Temperature	40°C
Mobile phase	Solvent A: distilled water + 0.05% acetic acid Solvent B: acetonitrile + 0.05% acetic acid
Flow rate	0.35 ml / min
Injection volume	18 μl

**Table 2. Parameters of ion source**

Curtain gas (a.u.)*	10 / 40**
Collision gas (a.u.)*	5 / 3**
Ion spray voltage (V)	5500
Temperature (°C)	600
Ion source gas 1 (a.u.)*	30
Ion source gas 2 (a.u.)*	40 / 80**
Resolution	Unit

\* arbitrary units

\*\*IAA analysis / CK analysis

This table has been modified from [Koike et al. 2017]<sup>9</sup>.

**Table 3. MRM transitions of IAA and CKs in LC-MS/MS analysis**

	Q1 (m/z)	Q3 (m/z)	Declustering potential (V)	Entrance potential (V)	Collision energy (V)
IAA	176	130	26	6.5	21
d <sub>5</sub> -IAA	181	134	36	4.0	23
tZ	220	136	36	5.0	23
d <sub>5</sub> -tZ	225	137	31	5.0	21
tZR	352	220	41	5.5	23
d <sub>5</sub> -tZR	357	225	51	5.0	21
iP	204	136	31	9.0	19
d <sub>6</sub> -iP	210	137	31	5.5	21
iPR	336	204	31	5.0	21
d <sub>6</sub> -iPR	342	210	36	5.5	21

This table has been modified from [Koike et al. 2017]<sup>9</sup>.

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d <sub>5</sub> -tZ	225	137	31	5.0
tZR	352	220	41	5.5
d <sub>5</sub> -tZR	357	225	51	5.0
iP	204	136	31	9.0
d <sub>6</sub> -iP	210	137	31	5.5
iPR	336	204	31	5.0
d <sub>6</sub> -iPR	342	210	36	5.5

This table has been modified from [Koike et al. 2017]<sup>9</sup>.

Collision energy (V)
21
23
23
21
23
21
19
21
21
21

Name of Material/ Equipment	Company	Catalog Number	Comments/Description
[2H5]indole-3-acetic acid	Olchemlm Ltd	031 1531	Internal standard for LC-MS/MS
[2H5] <i>trans</i> -zeatin	Olchemlm Ltd	030 0301	Internal standard for LC-MS/MS
[2H5] <i>trans</i> -zeatin riboside	Olchemlm Ltd	030 0311	Internal standard for LC-MS/MS
[2H6]N6-isopentenyl adenine	Olchemlm Ltd	030 0161	Internal standard for LC-MS/MS
[2H6]N6-isopentenyl adenosine	Olchemlm Ltd	030 0171	Internal standard for LC-MS/MS
indole-3-acetic acid	Wako	098 00181	standard for LC-MS/MS
<i>trans</i> -zeatin	SIGMA-ALDRICH	Z0876 5MG	standard for LC-MS/MS
<i>trans</i> -zeatin riboside	Wako	262 01081	standard for LC-MS/MS
N6-isopentenyl adenine	SIGMA-ALDRICH	D7674 1G	standard for LC-MS/MS
N6-isopentenyl adenosine	ACROS ORGANICS	22648 1000	standard for LC-MS/MS
acetonitrile hypergrade for LC-MS LiChrosolv	MERCK	1.00029.1000	solvent for LC-MS/MS
Water for chromatography			
LiChrosolv	MERCK	1.15333.1000	solvent for LC-MS/MS
HPLC	SHIMADZU	Prominence	
MS	Sciex	3200QTRAP	
Oasis HLB 30 mg/1 cc	Waters	WAT094225	cartridge column
Oasis MCX 30 mg/1 cc	Waters	186000252	cartridge column
screw neck total recovery vial	Waters	186002805	
blue, 12 x 32mm screw neck cap and PTFE/silicone septum	Waters	186000274	
Acquity UPLC BEH C18, 2.1x100 mm	Waters	186002350	UPLC column
Proshell 120 EC-C18, 2.1x50 mm	Agilent	699775-902	UPLC column
Digital microscope	Leica	DHS1000	



TissueLyser II	QIAGEN	85300	
Surgical blade	Feather	No. 22	
Scalpel handle	Feather	No. 4	
Savant			
SpeedVac/Refregerated vapor trap	Thermo Fisher Scientific	SPD111/RVT41 04	vacuum concentrator
Disposable glass tube (13x100 mm)	IWAKI	9832-1310	
Sterile petri dish	INA OPTICA	I-90-20	



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Author(s): Imari Koike, Koichiro Shimomura, Mikiisa Umehara

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Article Title: Quantification of endogenous auxin and cytokinin during internode culture in ipoeac  
Signature: Mikihisa Umehara Date: 18/9/2017

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Response to comments from Review editor

- Please take this opportunity to thoroughly proofread the manuscript to ensure that there are no spelling or grammatical errors.

We have corrected some small errors that are not described in this letter, and have also highlighted these changes in green.

- **Protocol Language:** Please ensure that all text in the protocol section is written in the imperative tense as if you are telling someone how to do the technique (i.e. “Do this”, “Measure that” etc.) Any text that cannot be written in the imperative tense may be added as a “Note”, however, notes should be used sparingly and actions should be described in the imperative tense wherever possible.

1) E.g. Line 66 should be a note.

L. 68, We have added ‘Note: ’ before ipecac (*Carapichea ipecacuanha*).

In addition, L. 82-83, We have revised the second sentence to imperative tense.

L. 131, We have deleted ‘Further’.

- **Protocol Detail:** Please note that your protocol will be used to generate the script for the video, and must contain everything that you would like shown in the video. **Please add more details to the following protocol steps.** There should be enough detail in each step to supplement the actions seen in the video so that viewers can easily replicate the protocol. Some examples:

1) Line 72: cute using scissors?

L. 76, 82, We have added ‘using a surgical scalpel with a blade No. 22 on a sterile acryl plate’.

2) Line 74: What is the culture medium/substrate?

L. 79, We have added ‘on phytohormone-free B5 medium’.

In addition, we have added some details in the text. See green highlight.

- **Protocol Numbering:** Please adjust the numbering of your protocol section to follow JoVE’s instructions for authors, 1. should be followed by 1.1. and then 1.1.1. if necessary and all steps should be lined up at the left margin with no indentations. There must also be a one-line space between each protocol step.

We have changed the numbering of protocol section as you proposed. In addition, we have inserted a one-line space between each step.

- **Protocol Highlight:** After you have made all of the recommended changes to your protocol (listed above), please re-evaluate the length of your protocol section. There is a 10-page limit for the protocol text, and a 3- page limit for filmable content. If your protocol is longer than 3 pages, please highlight ~2.5 pages or less of text (which includes headings and spaces) in yellow, to identify which steps should be visualized to tell the

most cohesive story of your protocol steps. Please see JoVE's instructions for authors for more clarification. Remember that the non-highlighted protocol steps will remain in the manuscript and therefore will still be available to the reader.

We have revised the protocol accordingly, but the total length was within 3 pages. Thus, we have not highlighted in yellow in the text.

- **Discussion:** JoVE articles are focused on the methods and the protocol, thus the discussion should be similarly focused. Please ensure that the discussion covers the following in detail and in paragraph form: 1) modifications and troubleshooting, 2) limitations of the technique, 3) significance with respect to existing methods, 4) future applications and 5) critical steps within the protocol.

1), 3), 5) We compared comprehensive analysis of all phytohormones and described on critical steps in our protocol (L. 207-218).

2) We discussed the detection limit of phytohormone analysis (L. 219-224).

4) We added one sentence to the end of Discussion as the application of our method, 'In the future, this method would be applied to investigate dynamics of the endogenous auxin and cytokinin during organogenesis in other plant species.' (L. 231-233).

- **Figure/Table Legends::**

1) Fig 3: Define the insets

We have defined the insets in Fig.3.

2) Tables 1-3: Add legends.

L. 198-203, Table legends have been added after figure legends.

- **References:**

1) Please abbreviate all journal titles.

We abbreviated the journal titles in references.

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We have replaced commercial names with generic names in the text. And we have added the commercial names in a material file.

- Please define all abbreviations at first use.

We defined all abbreviations at first use.

- Please use standard abbreviations and symbols for SI Units such as  $\mu\text{L}$ , mL, L, etc., and abbreviations for non-SI units such as h, min, s for time units. Please use a single space between the numerical value and unit.

We used abbreviations for SI units and non-SI units with a single space between the numerical value and unit.

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#### Response to comments from Reviewer 1

1. I would like to know the hormone levels in other plant species that adventitious shoots can be induced on phytohormone free culture media.

Thank you for your comments. The JoVE is a scientific method journal. We hope that someone who read our paper would try to analyze the hormone levels in other plant species using our protocol.

2. I would like to know why ipecac does not need exogenously applied phytohormones for adventitious shoot formation.

This is an important question. However, nobody probably knows the mechanism at this moment. In the future, we will try to answer the question.

3. Authors described in abstract, 'the optimum concentrations and combinations differ by species' and 'The results will allow us to estimate the most efficient timing of auxin

and cytokinin treatment to induce efficiently adventitious shoots in other plant species.  
I felt these two sentences are conflict a little bit.

We have revised the words 'the optimum concentrations and combinations differ by species' to be more clearly. And we have deleted a sentence, 'The results will allow us to estimate the most efficient timing of auxin and cytokinin treatment to induce efficiently adventitious shoots in other plant species'. We have added the advantages, limitations, and applications in our methods in stead of the sentence.

Response to comments from Reviewer 2

1. JoVE is a methods journal, I am not sure the manuscript is also a methods article. If it is, then I have a question. What are the advantages of the method you used? To clarify this, some comparison should be included in the results.

We have added the advantages of our method in Abstract (L. 29-31). Our method is simple compared with all hormone analysis established previously because we are focusing on two hormones, auxin and cytokinin. We have discussed it in Discussion (L. 216-227).

2. Why did you choose these two hormones (auxin and CKs) in your experiments, but not others such as cytokinins and gibberellins?

Because auxin and cytokinin mainly regulate adventitious shoot formation, we focused on quantification of these two phytohormones. To clarify the point, we have changed the title to 'Quantification of endogenous auxin and cytokinin during internode culture of ipecac'.

3. Long abstract: The section should be re-written. In the "Long Abstract", the authors focused on the background, material and method, but not the results.

The instruction for authors requires that Abstract should be written on the method rather than the results of a specific method, and that we should state about the purpose of the method, advantages, limitations, and applications. Thus, we have revised the long abstract and we have added the advantages, limitations, and applications in our methods.