Membrane dynamics of dividing cells imaged by lattice light-sheet microscopy


Abstract

Membrane remodeling is an essential part of transferring components to and from the cell surface and membrane-bound organelles and for changes in cell shape, which are particularly critical during cell division. Earlier analyses, based on classical optical live-cell imaging and mostly restricted by technical necessity to the attached bottom surface, showed persistent formation of endocytic clathrin pits and vesicles during mitosis. Taking advantage of the resolution, speed, and noninvasive illumination of the newly developed lattice light-sheet fluorescence microscope, we reexamined their assembly dynamics over the entire cell surface and found that clathrin pits form at a lower rate during late mitosis. Full-cell imaging measurements of cell surface area and volume throughout the cell cycle of single cells in culture and in zebrafish embryos showed that the total surface increased rapidly during the transition from telophase to cytokinesis, whereas cell volume increased slightly in metaphase and was relatively constant during cytokinesis. These applications demonstrate the advantage of lattice light-sheet microscopy and enable a new standard for imaging membrane dynamics in single cells and multicellular assemblies.

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F.A. developed the MATLAB software for automated 3D detection and tracking and for surface/volume measurements in isolated cells, analyzed the imaging data, and helped to conceive and edit the manuscript. S.U. implemented and operated the lattice light-sheet microscope LLSM.2 in the Kirchhausen laboratory, set up the required computing infrastructure, implemented the MATLAB software for automated cell tracking, surface area, and volume measurement in isolated cells and multicellular assemblies in tissues, obtained the imaging data on dividing cells in culture and in zebrafish embryos using LLSM.2, and helped to conceive and edit the manuscript. R.G. characterized the gene-edited SUM-AP-2.1 cells, including their endocytic properties. Y.-Y.C. generated the BSC1 cells stably coexpressing CAAX-eGFP and H2b-mCherry and helped to obtain imaging data of dividing cells in culture using the lattice light-sheet microscope LLSM.2 in the Kirchhausen laboratory. E.B. developed the lattice light-sheet microscope, provided advice to F.A. during implementation of the 3D automated detection and tracking software package. S.M. provided advice and laboratory support concerning use and maintenance of zebrafish. E.B. generated the lattice light-sheet microscope, provided guidance and advice during construction of LLSM.2, and helped to edit the manuscript. T.K. conceived and supervised most of the experiments, edited the manuscript, and helped to coordinate the interactions among the authors.

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Abbreviations used: ACME, Automated Cell Morphology Extractor; BIC, Bayesian information criterion; GFP, green fluorescent protein; LLSM, lattice light-sheet microscope; PSF, point spread function; TIRF, total internal reflection fluorescence.

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INTRODUCTION
Quantitative analysis of membrane dynamics has depended on advances in the sensitivity and resolution of optical live-cell imaging. The lattice light-sheet microscope (LLSM) is the most recent of these developments (Chen et al., 2014; Gao et al., 2014). The excitation illumination in an LLSM is confined to a very thin plane, and the emitted fluorescence signal is observed along an optical axis orthogonal to the illumination plane. Exposure (and consequent photodamage) is thus restricted to the thin slice of the cell being imaged at any moment, and the image is uncorrupted by out-of-focus signal. The thinness of the light sheet also contributes to better axial resolution than in confocal microscopy. Rapid scanning through the sample yields a three-dimensional (3D) movie with millisecond time resolution per imaging plane. We describe here the use of this new technology to reexamine two problems in membrane dynamics—molecular events in clathrin-coated pit formation and changes in cell shape during cell division. We extended the latter studies to include observations within an intact biological tissue.

Membranes determine the compartmental organization of a cell. Their remodeling is an essential part of any change in cell size and shape and of any transfer of components to and from the surface and membrane-bound organelles, processes particularly critical during cell division. During mitosis, adherent cells round up, and the dramatic changes in cell shape associated with the birth of two cells from one require control of endocytosis and exocytosis for retrieval and recovery of components at the cell surface.

In our previous work, we analyzed BSC1 cells undergoing division using live-cell spinning-disk confocal fluorescence microscopy imaging and found that the dynamics of endocytic clathrin-coated pits in naturally dividing cells was unaffected at the bottom (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007; Tacheva-Grigorova et al., 2013) and probably also throughout the top surfaces (Tacheva-Grigorova et al., 2013).

These observations were restricted, by technical necessity, to the region of contact between the plasma membrane and the glass coverslip. Essentially no quantitative information that follows the dynamic process in living cells was available at all locations away from the coverslip because of the challenges of making these measurements in an accurate, rapid, and noninvasive manner while at the same time preventing the significant photobleaching inherent in the data acquisition protocol over the required time period (tens of minutes) and with high sampling frequency (every 2–3 s).

In the work reported here, we circumvented these problems by using LLSM to evaluate the dynamics of plasma membrane coated pit formation over the entire cell surface, allowing us to extend conclusions drawn from total internal reflection fluorescence (TIRF) microscopy imaging of the bottom surface (Saffarian and Kirchhausen, 2008; Saffarian et al., 2009; Cocucci et al., 2012; Aguet et al., 2013; Merrifield and Kaksonen, 2014). Using gene-edited SUM AP-2.1 cells expressing physiological levels of the endocytic clathrin adaptor AP-2 fluorescently tagged with enhanced GFP (eGFP) at its ε2 subunit to map endocytic pits and vesicles (Kural et al., 2015), we found no differences in the mean lifetimes or maximum intensities of coated pits assembling on the top and bottom surfaces of interphase cells. During mitosis, clathrin-coated pits continued to form, as we reported previously (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007; Tacheva-Grigorova et al., 2013). The new measurements, however, revealed a transient drop in pit density of ∼50% but no alteration in pit dynamics during metaphase and anaphase, with recovery back to interphase density during cytokinesis.

Entry into metaphase and initiation of cytokinesis appear to be two critical points for regulating molecular events redirecting exocytic membrane traffic associated with plasma membrane organization (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007). We proposed that adjustment of endosomal recycling during cell division controls the cell area, leading to a sharp decrease during metaphase and recovery in anaphase (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007). This modulation results in transient endosomal retention of membrane-bound proteins such as the transferrin receptor, explaining its acute depletion from the surface of cells as determined by fluorescence microscopy (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007) and probably also the disappearance from the cell surface of many other membrane-bound proteins as determined by mass spectrometry (Ozlu et al., 2014).

A number of methods have been used to follow changes in cell shape, particularly during mitosis of cells grown in culture. The most recent applications include fluorescence exclusion with quantitative phase microscopy to determine cell volume (Zlotek-Zlotkiewicz et al., 2015), atomic force microscopy of uniaxially confined cells to calculate cell volume based on diameter and shape (Stewart et al., 2011; Fischer-Friedrich et al., 2014), suspended microchannel resonator of single cells to determine their volume (Grover et al., 2011; Son et al., 2015), and detection of the cell boundary computed from confocal sections to determine cell volume and area (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007; Habela and Sontheimer, 2007). Quantitative determination of the volume and surface area of single cells in tissues remains challenging.

We show here that full-cell 3D imaging using LLSM facilitates measurement of cell surface area and cell volume and of their changes throughout the cell cycle, not only for cells in culture, but also for those in intact tissue—in our case, the developing eye and the spinal tissue of a zebrafish embryo. The surface area was smallest during mitosis and remained relatively constant during metaphase, anaphase, and telophase, as shown previously (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007). After birth of the two daughter cells, the total surface increased rapidly during the transition from telophase to early stages of cytokinesis and then remained relatively constant until abscission. The rapid increase in surface area was accompanied by plasma membrane blebbing, as previously described for adherent and nonadherent cells (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007). The greater axial resolution of the new measurements eliminates a curious outcome of our earlier work on cell volume during mitosis using spinning-disk confocal microscopy (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2008): the inaccuracy in estimating the volume of the flattened part of an interphase cell from a spinning-disk confocal microscope led to an apparent decrease in volume during mitosis. In the measurements reported here, the cell volume slightly increased during metaphase, in agreement with recent observations obtained with alternative methods (Son et al., 2015; Zlotek-Zlotkiewicz et al., 2015), and then remained relatively constant during cytokinesis (determined as the combined volume of the two daughter cells).

The applications of LLSM described here show that its resolution, speed, and noninvasiveness enable a new standard for imaging membrane dynamics in both single cells and multicellular assemblies.

RESULTS
Gene-edited SUM-AP-2.1 cells
Most previous work on coated-pit dynamics required ectopic expression of one or more molecular components of the structures being studied fused with a genetically encoded fluorophore (e.g., one of the many derivatives of GFP). The tendency for overexpression of the tagged protein in such cases and its unknown ratio relative to untagged, endogenous protein complicates substantially any quantitative analysis. Gene editing, which can replace all alleles with
the tagged protein in question, circumvents both these problems, achieving physiological expression levels and eliminating untagged copies of the target (Doyon et al., 2011; Cocucci et al., 2012). In our previous analysis of coated-pit dynamics (Cocucci et al., 2012), we found that the initial detectable molecular event was generally the appearance of one clathrin triskelion anchored to the membrane by two AP-2 complexes, which in turn depended on phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate (PI-4,5-P2) for membrane localization (Boucrot et al., 2006; Zoncu et al., 2007; Cocucci et al., 2012). Clathrin connecting two such transiently held AP-2 complexes increased their membrane residence lifetime enough to allow capture of further copies of both components and hence to nucleate, continuing assembly (Cocucci et al., 2012). This conclusion came originally from a statistical model that took into account the relative contributions of untagged and tagged molecules in BSC1 cells ectopically expressing chimeric α2-eGFP of AP-2 along with the endogenous, untagged protein. The gene-edited SUM-AP-2.1 cells allowed us to confirm this result in a second cell type but without the need to account for the presence of untagged molecules. As before (Cocucci et al., 2012), we used single-molecule TIRF to track the arrival of AP-2 to initiating pits.

The tagged protein in question, circumvents both these problems, achieving physiological expression levels and eliminating untagged copies of the target (Doyon et al., 2011; Cocucci et al., 2012). In our previous analysis of coated-pit dynamics (Cocucci et al., 2012), we found that the initial detectable molecular event was generally the appearance of one clathrin triskelion anchored to the membrane by two AP-2 complexes, which in turn depended on phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate (PI-4,5-P2) for membrane localization (Boucrot et al., 2006; Zoncu et al., 2007; Cocucci et al., 2012). Clathrin connecting two such transiently held AP-2 complexes increased their membrane residence lifetime enough to allow capture of further copies of both components and hence to nucleate, continuing assembly (Cocucci et al., 2012). This conclusion came originally from a statistical model that took into account the relative contributions of untagged and tagged molecules in BSC1 cells ectopically expressing chimeric α2-eGFP of AP-2 along with the endogenous, untagged protein. The gene-edited SUM-AP-2.1 cells allowed us to confirm this result in a second cell type but without the need to account for the presence of untagged molecules. As before (Cocucci et al., 2012), we used single-molecule TIRF to track the arrival of AP-2 to initiating pits.
In 253 traces from three cells, the first detectable events during coated-pit initiation were two consecutive, stepwise increases in AP-2 fluorescence intensity (Figure 2A) with average dwell times of 2.9 and 2.3 s, respectively. The distribution of fluorescence intensity increments for both steps is shown in Figure 2B. Assuming full replacement of c2 by c2-eGFP (equivalent to a substitution fixed at 1), a search for the recruitment model with the lowest Bayesian information criterion (BIC) score (Burnham and Anderson, 2002; i.e., the model that best fit the experimental observations) yielded two AP-2 complexes per step in ~80 and ~70% of the first and second steps, respectively (insets in Figure 2, B and C, top, and model i). The model yielded preferential arrival of just one AP-2 complex in only 15 and 11% of the first and second steps, respectively, and of four AP-2 complexes in ~6 and ~20%.

We validated the recruitment model with an independent search that included exploration for partial replacement of c2 by the c2-eGFP or incomplete maturation of a fluorescent eGFP (Figure 2C, bottom, and associated models). The models iii and iv with the lowest BIC scores (<3400) converged to ~93% substitution of endogenous AP-2 with AP-2-eGFP and a very strong preference for two AP-2 complexes (>90 and ~80% during the first and second steps, respectively). Recruitment of 2 AP-2 complexes is thus a favored event during coated-pit initiation in cells whether they are expressing only

![FIGURE 2: Recruitment of AP-2 during the initiation phase of coated-pit formation.](image)

(A) Representative example of a fluorescence intensity tracing of AP-2 (c2-eGFP) from a time series obtained from SUM-AP-2.1 imaged by TIRF microscopy. The tracing corresponds to the formation of a coated pit containing AP-2 tagged by c2-eGFP; the time series was acquired every 150 ms with an exposure of 60 ms/frame. The inset shows the fitted steps and highlights the first and second steps. (B) Histogram of the fluorescence intensities associated with the first and second steps (gray). The best fit (dark blue) corresponds to the added contributions (orange) of one, two, and so on c2-eGFP molecules. The data from three cells correspond to 253 first and 224 second steps detected during the initiation of 253 independent coated pits. The combined dwell time for both steps was 2.6 ± 1.9 s (mean ± SD). (C) Selection of the best model describing the recruitment of AP-2 to the plasma membrane during the initiation phase of coated-pit formation. The data show the results from the process used to identify the best combination of simultaneous recruitment of AP-2 complexes fitting the experimental data for the first and second steps shown in B. The best models were identified following the procedure described in Cocucci et al. (2012) based on the BIC, where lower values indicate a better fit. Top, results obtained assuming that all AP-2s were tagged with c2-eGFP (substitution fixed at 1); bottom, results obtained when the algorithm was allowed to search for the optimal solution, including optimization in the extent of substitution of endogenous c2 by c2-eGFP. Both approaches converged to similar results, in agreement with the preferential recruitment of two AP-2s during each of the steps. Right, arrival of AP-2 to the first and second steps of the models highlighted on the left with the lowest (best) BIC score. The histograms show the frequency distribution of AP-2s recruited in the initial steps.
fluorescently tagged AP-2 (this study) or a mixture of native AP-2 and fluorescently tagged AP-2 (Cocucci et al., 2012).

**Imaging endocytic coated pits across the entire plasma membrane surface of SUM-AP-2.1 cells**

A limitation in all previous studies of coated-pit dynamics has been an effective restriction to a single cell surface (either free or attached) due to effects of bleaching and phototoxicity. The LLSM (Chen et al., 2014; Figure 3A) reduces these effects sufficiently that we can now study coated-pit dynamics or other cell biological processes throughout the cell for extended time periods. As an illustration, Supplemental Movie SM 1 shows the substantial decrease in photo-bleaching observed when using LLSM by comparing 3D time series obtained using spinning-disk confocal microscopy or LLSM of two cells expressing a mitochondrial marker. We followed recruitment of fluorescently tagged AP-2 over the entire plasma membrane surface of gene-edited SUM-AP-2.1 cells in interphase for time periods of up to 450 s. We find no differences in the mean lifetimes or maximum intensities of coated pits assembling on the top and bottom cell surfaces, allowing us to extend the conclusions drawn from TIRF microscopy (Saffarian and Kirchhausen, 2008; Saffarian et al., 2009; Cocucci et al., 2012; Aguet et al., 2013; Merrfield and Kaksonen, 2014) and spinning-disk confocal microscopy (Ehrlich et al., 2004; Kural et al., 2015) to pit dynamics over the entire plasma membrane. For this analysis, we extended previously applied two-dimensional (2D) detection and tracking algorithms (Aguet et al., 2013) to three dimensions and showed that we can follow the trajectories of most diffraction-limited coated pits and vesicles in the imaged cell volume during an observation time much longer than their mean lifetime from initiation to uncoating.

The data sets contained 90–100 z-stacks, composed of ∼50 sequential optical sections, each acquired with ∼40-ms exposure time and spaced ∼250 nm apart along the detection axis. Representative orthogonal sections (Figure 3B) from an image volume acquired at a single time point illustrate the distribution of AP-2 spots as restricted to the cell surface, as expected (Robinson, 1987; Ahle et al., 1988; Ehrlich et al., 2004).

The diffraction-limited fluorescent AP-2 spots (representative example shown in Figure 3C) had a point-spread function (PSF) with an invariant Gaussian profile, consistent with the 3D quasi-isotropic properties of the LLSM (Chen et al., 2014; Gao et al., 2014). We could therefore use a 3D Gaussian model to generalize to three dimensions the automated spot detection algorithm developed previously for 2D detection (Aguet et al., 2013). The algorithm (described in Materials and Methods) uses a computationally efficient filtering step to identify locations with statistically significant signal in volumetric data, enabling rapid detection of coated pits in the large LLSM data sets (∼2 GB/channel for a movie with 100 frames). Implementation of the 3D detection algorithm in a previously described software framework (Jaqaman et al., 2008; Aguet et al., 2013) enabled us to detect 3D trajectories of all AP-2–containing endocytic coated pits and vesicles formed asynchronously on both the top and bottom surfaces of the SUM-AP-2.1 cells first described in Kural et al. (2015). The example in Figure 3D shows the 3D trajectories of bona fide coated pits and vesicles color-coded for their lifetimes. The fluorescence intensity trace for a single coated pit, including confidence intervals derived from background noise, is shown in Figure 3E, and the cross-sections of individual volume frames obtained from the same pit are shown in Figure 3F. Supplemental Movie SM 2a (related to Figure 3D) shows the 3D time series, in which all of the coated-pit tracings were color-coded for their fluorescence intensity and then overlaid on the cell volume.

The improved 3D detection algorithm allowed us to determine the mean location of each AP-2 spot as it formed on either surface of each analyzed cell. The example in Figure 4A shows the location of AP-2 spots in the SUM-AP-2.1 cell presented in Figure 3D.
color-coded for their relative z-position with respect to the surface of the glass coverslip. Their locations were determined from the centroid position of the fluorescence spot; those close to the glass defined the baseline corresponding to the bottom surface (Figure 4A, gray spots); the remaining AP-2 spots were sorted into the upper surface based on their distance from this baseline (Figure 4A, other colors). The location of the bottom surface was defined by thresholding the position of the AP-2 spots with the mean plus 1 SD of a Gaussian distribution fitted to the lowest maximum (closest to the glass) of the distribution of all z-positions of AP-2 spots in each analyzed cell (Figure 4B). This procedure allowed us to compare the pit dynamics on both surfaces of any given cell. The ensemble analysis (Figure 4C) performed for >250,000 AP-2 containing structures at both surfaces from 45 cells showed ~33,000 bona fide nonabortive coated pits and vesicles with similar distributions of lifetimes, indicating similar assembly dynamics, and equivalent maximum fluorescence intensities, indicating similar coated vesicle sizes (Ehrlich et al., 2004). The analysis also showed a similar surface density of pits (Figure 4D) and the presence of a small number of persistent AP-2 spots (likely coated plaques) on the bottom surface of the cells (Figure 4E). The density of persistent objects increased with the duration of plating (unpublished data), as often observed with other adherent cells studied in vitro (Ehrlich et al., 2004; Cocucci et al., 2012, 2014). Rare persistent AP-2 objects (~0.1% of events) were also detected on the top surface (Figure 4E); the coat geometry of such objects remains to be determined. Similar results were obtained using SUM AP-2.2 and SUM AP-2.3 cells gene edited in both alleles to express μ2-eGFP and μ2-eGFP, respectively (Supplemental Figures S1 and S2).

We took advantage of the high spatial precision of the LLSM data to determine the distance from the plasma membrane of all coated vesicles immediately before uncoating. The measurement (~35 ± 130 nm; Figure 4F) represents the orthogonal displacement of the centroid of a given AP-2 spot from the membrane between the beginning and the end of its trajectory (marked by loss of fluorescence signal and hence used as a proxy for uncoating). The SD reflects uncertainty in pit and membrane positions, the latter determined by segmentation (see Materials and Methods). These measurements provide direct experimental evidence for short-range displacement of the coated vesicle away from the plasma membrane before the start of the uncoating reaction, as proposed previously (Ehrlich et al., 2004).

Coated-pit dynamics during cell division

Before the advent of LLSM, we used spinning-disk confocal fluorescence microscopy to trace the formation of coated pits and vesicles during mitosis in naturally dividing cells (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007; Tacheva-Grigorova et al., 2013). From these results, we proposed uniform pit assembly dynamics during all
as it was not possible to obtain 3D sets from the top surface due to extensive photobleaching and phototoxicity. Taking advantage of LLSM, we now traced the formation of most AP-2–coated pits and vesicles across the entire plasma membrane surface of a naturally dividing cell (Figure 5). During mitosis, clathrin-coated pits continue to form, as we found previously (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007; Tacheva-Grigorova et al., 2013).

Metaphase SUM-AP-2.1 cells, identified by their spherical appearance, were imaged in three dimensions during the ensuing stages of cell division. We generated consecutive imaging bursts of 2.4- to 3-min duration, with 3D stacks at 2.4- to 3.0-s intervals, each composed of 50–60 planes spaced 500 nm apart. This imaging protocol provided the required temporal resolution (∼3 s; Ehrlich et al., 2004; Aguet et al., 2013) and spatial resolution (∼230 nm in xy and ∼600 nm in z; Chen et al., 2014) to resolve and track each assembling pit. The snapshots in Figure 5, A–C (see also Supplemental Movies SM 2b–2f), show raw images from single optical sections of the full volumetric data for three different cells, each at three different time points. Figure 5C includes projected orthogonal views (see Supplemental Movie SM 2f). These figures illustrate the presence of AP-2 spots on the plasma membrane throughout mitosis and cytokinesis. The complete data set used for analysis included results from eight cells followed during their division and from 23 cells imaged for a single ∼3-min interval during either metaphase or interphase. The results obtained for objects with lifetimes >10 s are shown in Figure 5D, bottom panel, and for objects with lifetimes >25 s in Supplemental Figure S3. Analysis of pit dynamics showed invariant surface density of endocytic coated pits and vesicles in cells imaged during interphase and during late phases of cytokinesis but a transiently lower density in cells imaged during metaphase. In four cases in which we followed the activity of pit dynamics for the same dividing cell, recovery of the original surface density coincided with cell reattachment to the substrate and spreading, whereas in one case, the density remained low in the daughter cells, which failed to fully reattach and spread (cell from Figure 5B and Supplemental Movie SM 2e). In all cases, however, the distribution of AP-2 lifetimes was unaffected throughout cell division (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007; Tacheva-Grigorova et al., 2013). The time series were restricted, however, to brief single-plane data sets acquired from the bottom surface, stages of cell division (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007; Tacheva-Grigorova et al., 2013). The time series were restricted, however, to brief single-plane data sets acquired from the bottom surface,
Surface area and volume of dividing cells grown in culture

From the same 3D data sets used to trace AP-2 events, we determined the location of the plasma membrane as defined by the boundary between soluble cytosolic fluorescent AP-2 and the surrounding extracellular medium lacking AP-2 (see Materials and Methods). The cell surface area and the corresponding cell volume were then calculated from the location of the plasma membrane as the cell progressed through division (Figure 5D). As shown earlier (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007; Tacheva-Grigorova et al., 2013), the surface area of a typical cell was smallest during mitosis (less in individual prometaphase than in metaphase cells) and was relatively constant during the last ∼20 min of mitosis, including metaphase, anaphase, and telophase (tracking of selected cells). The total surface of the two daughter cells increased rapidly during the transition from telophase to early stages of cytokinesis (ingression of the membrane furrow along the equator), after which the surface area remained relatively constant for at least 30 min, until abscission. We obtained similar results with 11 BSC1 cells, visualizing the plasma membrane directly by ectopic expression of eGFP fused at its C-terminus with the plasma membrane–sorting motif CAAX (Figure 6, A and B, and Supplemental Movies SM 3a and 3b) used as a way to more accurately delineate the cell surface. The rapid increase in surface area was accompanied by plasma membrane blebbing (examples highlighted by arrows in Figures 5, A and B, and 6A and Supplemental Movie SM 3b), as previously noted for adherent BSC1 and HeLa cells and nonadherent Jurkat and SF9 cells (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007; Tacheva-Grigorova et al., 2013).

Our data sets for individual cells undergoing division do not include the corresponding interphase cell just before mitosis due to lack of a cellular marker that could highlight the onset of the interphase-to-prometaphase transition. Because we could determine the surface area of only interphase cells of unknown longevity, we measured a range of sizes representing cells imaged at different stages of growth during G1 and S phase and then used this range for comparison with the surface areas of the cells traced during cell division (Figure 5D). As expected, the data showed that the surface area decreased as cells entered mitosis and recovered rapidly as they exited. The recovery was complete before abscission.

From the same 3D LLSM data sets used for the surface area calculations, we determined the volume of the SUM-AP-2.1 cells (analyzed using the AP-2 signal) and BSC1 cells (analyzed using the surface marker) as they transitioned from late stages of mitosis through cytokinesis. The volume of individual metaphase cells was slightly larger than that of prometaphase cells and decreased slightly or remained relatively constant afterward, as determined by the combined volume of the two daughter cells (Figures 5C and 6B).

Surface area and volume of dividing cells in the developing eye of a zebrafish embryo

Because cells within a living tissue are exposed to force and space constraints supplied by neighboring cells, it is possible that the changes in area and volume of dividing cells just described in culture are different in living tissues. We used LLSM to investigate these properties. We imaged the developing eye and the spinal tissue of zebrafish embryos, in which the cells undergo active cell division ∼17 h postfertilization. As with the BSC1 cells, we directly visualized the plasma membrane of cells, in this case marked by fluorescent citrine containing the palmitoylation and myristoylation sequence motifs from lyn kinase (Mosaliganti et al., 2012; Swinburne et al., 2015) expressed as a transgene in all cells. The z-stacks of the 3D time series, acquired for periods of 60–120 min, were obtained by translating the sample stage; they comprised ∼250 optical sections spaced at 400 nm along the s-axis, acquired with ∼40-ms exposures per frame. Figure 7, A–E, shows a schematic diagram of the imaging setup, highlighting the relative orientation of the zebrafish embryo and the eye, a volumetric representation of a 3D capture, and a display of selected planes. The associated movies (Supplemental Movies SM 4a and 4b) demonstrate the remarkable aggregated 3D motility of the cells during the imaging period. All cells in the time series were uniquely identified with Automated Cell Morphology Extractor (ACME)
The distributions of surface area and volume of the round (i.e., metaphase) cells were relatively narrow, but the corresponding values for 11 nonspherical (e.g., interphase) cells randomly selected from the same imaging views of the eye were relatively broad and centered on a smaller mean than those of the mitotic cells (Figure 9B). We interpret these comparisons to reflect that in the rapidly developing eye, the imaged interphase cells are a “sampling” of cells biased toward the most abundant population representing early interphase, when the cells are still growing.

DISCUSSION

The experiments we report here illustrate the quantitative application of three new and powerful features of lattice light-sheet microscopy. The first is time resolution of $\sim 2$ s across an entire cell for repeated periods of several minutes with low photodamage, high signal-to-noise ratio, and excellent 3D resolution. We used this property to determine the assembly dynamics of most endocytic coated pits and vesicles that form at the plasma membrane of cells during interphase and cell division. The second is determination of changes in the area and volume of the eye is shown in Figure 7F. Supplemental Movie SM 5 illustrates two cells undergoing division located visually and whose segmented cell boundaries were verified manually. We used a custom MATLAB routine to track cells as they divided and then used their cell boundaries, determined by ACME, to calculate the variation of surface area and volume with time. Figure 8 shows a dividing cell within a representative volumetric view of the eye and three planes for five different time points. As in the aforementioned measurements of cultured cells, the area of mitotic cells in the eye and spine increased at the onset of cytokinesis and then was relatively constant during the remaining phases of cytokinesis (Figure 9). Membrane blebbing similarly accompanied the rapid deposition of new membrane (Figure 9A, arrows for the eye, and data not shown for the spine). The combined volume of the two daughter cells barely decreased during cytokinesis and was similar to that of the mitotic cell before birth (Figure 9B). We obtained similar results with five dividing cells in the spinal tissue of zebrafish embryos from the same citrine-tagged line (two cells) and from wild-type zebrafish strain AB (three cells) in which the citrine tag was introduced into oocytes by injecting mRNA encoding fluorescent citrine fused to the palmitoylation and myristoylation sequence motifs (Figure 9C).

The experiments we report here illustrate the quantitative application of three new and powerful features of lattice light-sheet microscopy. The first is time resolution of $\sim 2$ s across an entire cell for repeated periods of several minutes with low photodamage, high signal-to-noise ratio, and excellent 3D resolution. We used this property to determine the assembly dynamics of most endocytic coated pits and vesicles that form at the plasma membrane of cells during interphase and cell division. The second is determination of changes in the area and volume of the eye is shown in Figure 7F. Supplemental Movie SM 5 illustrates two cells undergoing division located visually and whose segmented cell boundaries were verified manually. We used a custom MATLAB routine to track cells as they divided and then used their cell boundaries, determined by ACME, to calculate the variation of surface area and volume with time. Figure 8 shows a dividing cell within a representative volumetric view of the eye and three planes for five different time points. As in the aforementioned measurements of cultured cells, the area of mitotic cells in the eye and spine increased at the onset of cytokinesis and then was relatively constant during the remaining phases of cytokinesis (Figure 9). Membrane blebbing similarly accompanied the rapid deposition of new membrane (Figure 9A, arrows for the eye, and data not shown for the spine). The combined volume of the two daughter cells barely decreased during cytokinesis and was similar to that of the mitotic cell before birth (Figure 9B). We obtained similar results with five dividing cells in the spinal tissue of zebrafish embryos from the same citrine-tagged line (two cells) and from wild-type zebrafish strain AB (three cells) in which the citrine tag was introduced into oocytes by injecting mRNA encoding fluorescent citrine fused to the palmitoylation and myristoylation sequence motifs (Figure 9C).
volume of single cultured cells over different stages of the cell cycle. The third is extension of area and volume measurements to cells within intact, living tissues. The developing eye of zebrafish embryos is a particularly useful model system in this regard due to its relatively high frequency of cell division. Instrumental to these studies was the implementation of new analytical tools for the automated identification and 3D tracking over time of the fluorescence signal generated by diffraction-limited objects.

The earliest studies of coated-pit dynamics in living cells relied either on spinning-disk confocal microscopy to distinguish top and bottom surfaces of a cell (Ehrlich et al., 2004; Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2008; Kural et al., 2015) or TIRF microscopy to achieve high signal-to-noise ratio on the adherent surface only (Merrifield et al., 2002, 2005; Merrifield and Kaksonen, 2014; Saffarian and Kirchhausen, 2008; Saffarian et al., 2009; Aghet et al., 2013; Cocucci et al., 2014). The LLSM offers the low background and reduced photobleaching of TIRF in three dimensions rather than two. In addition, the speed and high axial resolution of LLSM permit many more optical sections to be acquired over the thickness of the cell, permitting cells to be studied over their entire dorsal surface. These include cells well suited for complete replacement of endogenous proteins by gene editing, such as those of the largely diploid human SUM159 line. Expression of a protein bearing a fluorescent tag at physiological levels and in the absence of any untagged protein (Doyon et al., 2011; Cocucci et al., 2012, 2014; Grassart et al., 2014; Hong et al., 2015; Kural et al., 2015) circumvents many of the confounding factors in previous efforts to count the number of molecules that participate in limiting events such as initiation (Cocucci et al., 2012) or termination (Cocucci et al., 2014; Grassart et al., 2014) of a clathrin-coated pit. We thus reinforced our conclusion from earlier work that the predominant molecular event for initiating coated-pit assembly is arrival at the site of the future pit of a clathrin triskelion captured at the membrane by two AP-2 complexes (Cocucci et al., 2012). Cross-linking (by clathrin) of two AP-2 complexes extends the membrane residence lifetime of AP-2, initially localized by association with Pi-4,5-P2 head groups, to increase the likelihood of capturing an additional, AP-2-bound clathrin (Cocucci et al., 2012). We now further showed that the dynamics and size distribution of coated pits are uniform over the entire cell surface of the SUM 159 cells and that long-lived “coated plaques” accumulate only on the adherent cell surface and only after extended periods after initial attachment to the coverslip (Kirchhausen, 2009; Saffarian et al., 2009; Grove et al., 2014). This property of a stationary cell contrasts with the uneven distribution of coated pits and vesicles at the leading edge of a migrating cell. These structures are notably absent on the ventral surface near the leading edge of lateral membrane protrusions (Kural et al., 2015). Finally, we used the high 3D spatial resolution afforded by LLSM to measure the mean separation from the plasma membrane of budded coated vesicles at the time uncoating begins.

We extended our studies to dividing cells in an effort to resolve a debate about the persistence of clathrin-mediated endocytosis during mitosis (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007; Fielding et al., 2012; Tacheva-Grigorova et al., 2013; Kaur et al., 2014). We showed in work using spinning-disk confocal microscopy that coated-pit assembly continues during mitosis, even though transferrin uptake ceases (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007; Tacheva-Grigorova et al., 2013). We further showed that cessation of transferrin uptake mainly comes from loss of transferrin receptors at the cell surface (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007), later confirmed using mass spectrometry (Cocucci et al., 2012; Ozlu et al., 2014), due to cessation of exocytosis rather
Membrane and volume dynamics of dividing cells in the developing eye of zebrafish embryos. (A) Representative deconvolved images corresponding to the central cross-section obtained using LLSM.2 from a 3D time series of a dividing cell within the developing eye of a zebrafish embryo expressing fluorescent citrine targeted to the plasma membrane. Selected examples of membrane blebs appearing during early stages of cytokinesis are highlighted with arrowheads. Scale bar, 5 μm. (B) Cell volume and surface area corresponding to four dividing eye cells (time courses) and 11 cells in interphase (dots) imaged using LLSSM.2. Values obtained during cytokinesis correspond to the sum of the values from the two offspring cells. All traces were aligned with the onset of cytokinesis, defined as t = 0 s. (C) Cell volume and surface area for five dividing spinal cells (time courses) and 15 cells in interphase (dots) imaged using LLSM.2. Values obtained during cytokinesis correspond to the sum of the values from the two offspring cells. All traces were aligned with the onset of cytokinesis, defined as t = 0 s.

As recently described by using a fluorescence exclusion approach (Zlotek-Zlotkiewicz et al., 2015) or a suspended microchannel resonator approach (Son et al., 2015), depending on cell type, the cell volume increases briefly during metaphase by up to 30%, whereas the total volume of the two daughter cells is, within experimental error, equal to that of the mother cell immediately before entry into mitosis (as we concluded previously; Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2008). A recent study (Zlotek-Zlotkiewicz et al., 2015) also showed similar cell volume estimates from the fluorescence exclusion approach and from a geometric calculation derived by fitting the maximal diameter of the circle defined by the exclusion volume or the cortical actin fluorescent signal of metaphase cells probed with Lifeact (similar to determination of the cell boundary using membrane or cytosolic fluorescent probes done here). The easier-to-quantify measurements of volume afforded by the LLSM eliminate an anomaly in our earlier work, which appeared to show a transient drop in cell volume from prometaphase to anaphase. The discrepancy in the total volume determination was due to a systematic error in the masking procedure originally used to mark the cell boundary from data acquired using spinning-disk confocal microscopy, induced by the considerable dispersion (∼1.2 μm) of the PSF along the optical z-axis. Instead of locating the membrane as the position with the maximal z-axial intensity containing the fluorescence signal generated by a membrane marker, the previous approach selected the outermost z-axial location containing a fluorescence signal. The resulting error artificially raised the relative position of the plasma membrane, leading to an overestimate of the calculated volume, which was particularly noticeable in regions associated with the peripheral flat regions where top and bottom surfaces are in close proximity. Reevaluation of all of the original images, using the algorithm used here, to map analytically the location of the cell membrane is consistent with a slight increase between prophase and metaphase and minimal volume change thereafter.
Despite the increase in spatial precision provided by the live-cell LLSM measurements, we are unable to account directly for potential contributions that might be provided to the surface area by subresolution features such as microvilli. We believe, however, that the presence of a large number of such membrane folds particularly during mitosis is unlikely, as they would have been detected as a relative increase in fluorescence intensity of the cell membrane marker. In the future, one way to address this question more precisely could be by using focused ion beam scanning electron microscopy to obtain high-resolution full volumetric images of cells during different stages of cell division.

We previously showed the appearance of nondeleterious blebs that rapidly appear and disappear in a time frame of seconds during the reactivation of exocytosis (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007). Blebbing is at the outer surface of adherent and nonadherent mammalian cells dividing at 37°C in culture, mostly at the distal poles and away from the cleavage furrow until late stages of cytokinesis. These observations were extended here to cells dividing in situ and at room temperature in the developing eye of zebrafish embryos. The correlation of plasma membrane recovery with formation of surface blebs seems to be a general property of dividing animal cells.

Taking advantage of powerful features of full-cell imaging provided by the lattice light-sheet microscope, our study clarifies a debated point by showing that coated-pit dynamics indeed persist during cell division of mammalian cells in culture. It also shows that the volume remains relatively constant during cell division for the cell types we studied in vitro and for those in the developing zebrafish embryo. Finally, it confirms that, like in cells grown in culture, the surface area of dividing cells in tissue is modulated, reaching a minimum during mitosis and rapidly increasing during cytokinesis.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

**Cell culture**

Human-derived, mostly diploid SUM159 cells were grown in DMEM/F-12/10% Fetal Bovine Serum (FBS; Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO), 5 μg/ml insulin (I9278; Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO), and 1 μg/ml hydrocortisone (H4001; Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO), 10% FBS; Waltham, MA), pH 7.4. The BSC1 monkey kidney epithelial cells were grown in DMEM/F-12/10% Fetal Bovine Serum (FBS; Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO), 5 μg/ml insulin (I9278; Sigma-Aldrich), and 10 mM 4-(2-hydroxyethyl)pyridine (HEPES; 25-060-Ci; Mediatech, Manassas, VA), 1 μg/ml hydrocortisone (H4001; Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO), and 10 mM 4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid (HEPES; 25-060-Ci; Mediatech, Manassas, VA), pH 7.4. The BSC1 monkey kidney epithelial cells stably expressing eGFP-CAAX (Boucrot and Kirchhausen, 2007) together with H2B-mCherry were generated by transfection with a plasmid encoding H2B-mCherry. Cells simultaneously expressing eGFP-CAAX and H2B-mCherry were selected for 7 d using 50 μg/ml puromycin, followed by cell sorting with FACS Aria II (BD Biosciences, San Jose, CA). Cells were grown in DMEM (10569-044; Life Technologies) supplemented with 10% FBS, 100 U/ml penicillin and streptomycin, and, when required, 50 μg/ml puromycin.

**Gene editing**

SUM159 cells were gene edited in both alleles to replace the α2 subunit of AP-2 with α2 fused at its C-terminus to eGFP using a TALEN-based protocol (Sanjana et al., 2012). The resulting cell line, first described in Kural et al. (2015), is here named SUM-AP-2.1. The downstream targeting sequence, 5′-TGTGGAATA-CAGCTGTCTATG 3′, overlapped the α2 TGA stop codon (anti-parallel, underlined), and the upstream targeting sequence, 5′-TGGGTATGCAGCTGTATACG 3′, was located 14 nucleotides upstream (Figure 1A). The donor construct was generated using the following primers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primer</th>
<th>Sequence</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F1 up</td>
<td>AGTGGTGCAATCTTGCTTCGTC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R1</td>
<td>CATGTTGGCGACCGTGATCCCTCCAGGGAC-TGTAGCATCAG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F2 eGFP</td>
<td>GATCCACGCGTCGACCATG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R2</td>
<td>GGCTTGGCGGTCCGTCGGCCCATTGACCA-GCTGTCGACCATG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F3 down</td>
<td>GGCAGGCGCGACCCCACCG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R3 CCAGGTATGGTGGGCACACATC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In brief, SUM159 cells were cotransfected with 600 ng each of the upstream and downstream TALEN targeting sequences and the pCRII/GW vector containing the donor construct transfected using TransIT 202 Transfection Reagent (Mirus Bio, Madison, WI) into 1.5 × 10^6 SUM159 cells plated the day before in six-well plates. A monocloneal cell line gene edited in both alleles for α2-eGFP was obtained by flow cytometry single-cell sorting using a FACS Aria II (BD Biosciences) equipped with a 300-mW, 488-nm laser and a 70-μm nozzle. Clone D8 (SUM-AP-2.1) was identified by PCR amplification from purified genomic DNA using GoTaQ Polymerase (Promega, Madison, WI) with forward primer 5′-TGAAGCTGTGTCGGCCACCTC 3′ and reverse primer 5′-GGTACTCGGGACACACAGC 3′. These primers map a genomic region containing the α2 stop codon; amplified wild-type α2 generates a 426-base pair product, and insertion of eGFP results in a 1151-base pair product. Expression of α2-eGFP instead of α2 was confirmed by SDS–PAGE and Western blot analysis.

SUM-AP-2.2 cell line (expressing the α2 subunit of AP-2 fused at its C-terminus to eGFP instead of α2) and SUM-AP-2.3 cell line (expressing the μ2 subunit of AP-2 with eGFP inserted between residues 236 and 237 of μ2) gene edited in both alleles were obtained by using a clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats/Cas9 protocol as previously described (Chou et al., 2016). A free PCR strategy (Ran et al., 2013) was used to generate the small guide RNAs with target sequences specific for AP2-α2 or AP2-μ2. A DNA fragment containing the U6 promoter was generated by PCR with forward primer 5′-GGCCGTA-CCTGAGGCGCTATTCCC 3′ and reverse primer 5′-ACCTCTAGAAAAAAGCAGCGATCGGCGCAATTTTCGATGTAAC-GGACTIONCGCATTTAAAACTTGTCCATTCCATTTCTTCTTACACCATCAGGCTGGCCACCAACG, and the underlined nucleotides representing the complementary sequences of the target sequences for α2 and μ2, GCTACAGTCCCTGGAGGGGC and GATTGCTTCCGGGTCAACAGC, respectively.

Cloning into the pcDNA3.3 vector a genomic DNA fragment containing the sequence for eGFP generated the donor construct. PCRs with primers F1and R1 and with F3 and R3 amplified ~800 base pairs of genomic sequences upstream and downstream of the stop codon of α2 or of amino acid 236 of μ2, respectively. Primer R1 contains complementary sequences to the linker at the 5′ end of eGFP, and F3 primer contains complementary sequences to the 3′ end of the eGFP. The eGFP sequence containing the GGS linker was amplified using primers F2 and R2 from an eGFP expression plasmid used as template. Overlapping PCR performed using primers F1–R3 and the three DNA fragments (PCR products using primers F1 and R1, F2 and R2, and F3 and R3) as templates generated DNA fragments of eGFP open reading frame (ORF) flanked by either α2 or μ2 genomic DNA sequences. These ~2400-base pair PCR products were purified by electrophoresis in 1% agarose and cloned into
pcDNA3.3 using a pcDNA3.3-TOPO TA cloning Kit (Thermo-Fisher Scientific).

The sequences of the α2 primers were as follows:

**α2.2 up**
- F1 AGTGGTGCAACCTTGGCTCATGC
- R1 GGAACCCACACACACGACACCCCTCTCCCTCAACGGACATC
- R2 TTACTTGTACGTCGTCCACTG

**α2.2 down**
- F3 GGAGGAGGGTGACAGATGACCAAAACACCATC
- R3 CCGGTTATGTTGCCACACATC

The sequences of the μ2 primers were as follows:

**μ2 up**
- F1 GTCACAGATCACCAGCCAGGAT
- R1 GATCCACCGAGGATCCTCCTTGCTTCGCCGATC

**μ2 eGFP**
- F2 GAAGCAAGAGGATCCGGTGGATCTCTGGTGACG
- R2 AGAACCCACAGAACCTCCCCT

**μ2 down**
- F3 CAAGGGAGGGTCTGGTGGTTCTTCAATTGCCATT
- R3 CATTACAAGGAAATGCCAAAGCAT

SUM159 cells (1.5 × 10⁴) were cotransfected with 800 ng each of the Cas9 expression plasmid, pcDNA3.3 vector containing the donor construct, and the free PCR DNA fragment expressing the small guide RNA. Double allele-edited monoclonal cell lines were obtained using the same procedure described to obtain the SUM-AP-2.1 cell line. In brief, transfected cells were expanded and single-cell sorted using flow cytometry for expression of eGFP. Single cells expressing eGFP were isolated, allowed to clonally expand, and used with genomic DNA to identify SUM-AP-2.2. SUM-AP-2.3 nor construct, and the free PCR DNA fragment expressing the small guide RNA. Double allele-edited monoclonal cell lines were obtained using the same procedure described to obtain the SUM-AP-2.1 cell line. In brief, transfected cells were expanded and single-cell sorted using flow cytometry for expression of eGFP. Single cells expressing eGFP were isolated, allowed to clonally expand, and screened by PCR for eGFP insertion in both alleles. The primers used with genomic DNA to identify SUM-AP-2.2 expressing α2-eGFP were the same used to identify SUM-AP-2.1. SUM-AP-2.3 (expressing μ2-eGFP) was identified using the PCR forward primer 5′-GAGCAAGCCCTTTTGGTG-3′ and reverse primer 5′-TGATGCTCCCTGGTGCA-3′ targeting genomic regions in the vicinity of amino acid 236 of μ2; the size of the PCR products for wild-type and eGFP-inserted μ2 were 526 and 1279 base pairs, respectively.

### Immunoprecipitation and Western blotting

SUM159 cells wild-type, gene-edited SUM-AP-2.1, or SUM159 cells (1.5 × 10⁴) were cotransfected with 800 ng each of the Cas9 expression plasmid, pcDNA3.3 vector containing the donor construct, and the free PCR DNA fragment expressing the small guide RNA. Double allele-edited monoclonal cell lines were obtained using the same procedure described to obtain the SUM-AP-2.1 cell line. In brief, transfected cells were expanded and single-cell sorted using flow cytometry for expression of eGFP. Single cells expressing eGFP were isolated, allowed to clonally expand, and screened by PCR for eGFP insertion in both alleles. The primers used with genomic DNA to identify SUM-AP-2.2 expressing α2-eGFP were the same used to identify SUM-AP-2.1. SUM-AP-2.3 (expressing μ2-eGFP) was identified using the PCR forward primer 5′-GAGCAAGCCCTTTTGGTG-3′ and reverse primer 5′-TGATGCTCCCTGGTGCA-3′ targeting genomic regions in the vicinity of amino acid 236 of μ2; the size of the PCR products for wild-type and eGFP-inserted μ2 were 526 and 1279 base pairs, respectively.

### Endocytosis assay using flow cytometry

SUM159-AP-2.1 cells plated in six-well plates and grown to 80% confluency were transfected with plasmids coding for CD8 chimera containing in its cytosolic tail the endocytic motif YAL, EAAAL, or FANPXAY, using TransfeX transfection reagent (ATCC). The PEG-modified coverslips coated with a copolymer of poly(ethylene glycol) (PEG; Susos AG) as described (Böcking et al., 2011; Cocucci et al., 2012). Glass coverslips with plated cells were washed with sterile PBS and placed in an Attocluor Cell Chamber (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA) with 1 ml of prewarmed MEMx without phenol red (GIBCO, Langley, OK) supplemented with 1% FBS. The chamber was then placed inside the environmentally controlled chamber of the TIRF microscope. The PEG-modified coverslips were coated with 0.2 mg/ml avidin dissolved in PBS, and after washing with PBS, they were coated with 0.5 mg/ml biotinylated fibronectin dissolved in PBS. After rinsing, the coverslips were used to plate cells for TIRF microscopy.

Glass coverslips with plated cells were washed with sterile PBS and placed in an Attofluor Cell Chamber (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA) with 1 ml of prewarmed MEMx without phenol red (GIBCO, Langley, OK) supplemented with 1% FBS. The chamber was then placed into a heated sample holder (20/20 Technology, Wilmington, NC) placed inside the environmentally controlled chamber of the TIRF microscope.

Recombinant eGFP made in Escherichia coli was used for single-molecule fluorescence intensity calibration as described (Cocucci et al., 2012; Kural et al., 2012). TIRF imaging was carried out of coverslips bound to eGFP from a solution containing ~2 nM eGFP in PBS adsorbed immediately after a 5-min glow discharge at 50 mA (Electron Microscopy Science, Hatfield, PA).
TIRF microscopy was performed using a Marianas–based system (Intelligent Imaging Innovations, Denver, CO) controlled with SlideBook V5.0 (Intelligent Imaging) operating under Windows 7 (Microsoft) on a computer with 12 GB of RAM (Dell, Round Rock, TX) as described (Cocucci et al., 2012, 2014), except that the spherical aberration correction system was replaced by a 2x magnification lens placed in front of the charge-coupled device (CCD) camera, such that each pixel corresponded to 80 nm in object space. The incidence angle of the excitation light was adjusted to generate an evanescent field with a penetration depth of ∼100–200 nm. The illumination power at the back aperture of the objective was 3.3 mW. Time series were acquired with an exposure of 60 ms/frame imaged every 150 ms.

The dynamics of cytosolic AP-2 incorporation during the first 5 s of pit formation was determined from TIRF data with single-molecule sensitivity acquired using gene-edited SUM-AP-2.1 cells as described (Cocucci et al., 2012, 2014). The centroid of diffraction-limited spots was obtained using the u-track software (Jaqaman et al., 2008; Aguet et al., 2013) with psfSigma, 1; integWindow, 1; alphaLocMax, 0.12; and numSigma, 3. Tracking was constrained to objects that remained for at least 15 consecutive frames (∼1.7 s) and with gaps of <5 frames. The selected traces persisted for 15 s or more. Step detection during the initial growth phase of the tracings was done as previously described (Cocucci et al., 2012).

Independent confirmation for the full extent of substitution determined by Western blot analysis from SUM-AP-2.1 cells extracts was obtained by comparing models with variable substitution levels and different combinations of AP-2 recruitment units (monomer, dimer, tetramer, dimers and tetramers, etc.) and using the BIC to determine by Western blot analysis from SUM-AP-2.1 cell extracts that each pixel corresponded to 80 nm in object space. The incidence angle of the excitation light was adjusted to generate an evanescent field with a penetration depth of ∼100–200 nm. The illumination power at the back aperture of the objective was 3.3 mW. Time series were acquired with an exposure of 60 ms/frame imaged every 150 ms.

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**LLSM visualization of cells ex vivo and corresponding analyses**

**Cell cycle synchronization and ex vivo imaging during cell division.** After keeping the cells at 100% confluency for 1 d (a condition that arrests the cells at the end of G1; Coupin et al., 1999; Kozik et al., 2010), they were trypsinized and seeded onto 5-mm-diameter coverslips (Warner Instruments) that were cleaned by sonication in pH 7.4.

Cell cycle synchronization and ex vivo imaging during cell division. After keeping the cells at 100% confluency for 1 d (a condition that arrests the cells at the end of G1; Coupin et al., 1999; Kozik et al., 2010), they were trypsinized and seeded onto 5-mm-diameter coverslips (Warner Instruments) that were cleaned by sonication in pH 7.4.

**LLSM live-cell 3D imaging.** The imaging of gene-edited SUM-AP-2.1 cells was carried out in two labs using the LLSM.1 from the Betzig laboratory at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Janelia Research Campus (Ashburn, VA) and the LLSM.2 from the Kirchhausen laboratory (Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA). In both microscopes, we generated a light sheet using a square lattice configuration in dithered mode (Chen et al., 2014). The LLSM.1 data were acquired with an Andor iXon 897 electron-multiplying (EM) CCD camera in which the sample was collected by exciting each plane with a 488-nm laser at ∼62 μW (at the back aperture of the excitation objective) for 20 ms and with excitation inner and outer numerical apertures (NAs) of 0.325 and 0.4, respectively. The LLSM.2 data from gene-edited SUM-AP-2.1, SUM-AP-2.2, and SUM AP-2.3 were acquired with either a Hamamatsu ORCA-Flash 4.0 scientific com-plementary metal-oxide semiconductor (sCMOS) camera or an Andor iXon 897 EMCCD camera, in which each plane of the imaged volume was exposed for 40 ms and excited using a 488-nm laser (operating at ∼6 mW, with ∼20 μW at the back aperture of the excitation objective) with an excitation NA of 0.35/0.44 and a corresponding light-sheet length of 30 μm. SUM-AP-2.1 cells undergoing division were imaged by scanning the objective and the dithered light sheet at 500-nm step sizes in the z-axis (see schematic representation in Figure 3A), thereby capturing a volume of ∼50 × 50 × 25 μm (512 × 512 × 51 pixels) on the LLSM.1 or ∼80 × 80 × 35 μm on the LLSM.2 (768 × 768 × 70 pixels) every 2.4–2.8 s (including a 1.5-s pause between time points for data acquired on the LLSM.1). Measurements of coated-pit dynamics and determination of surface area and volume changes of cells undergoing mitosis were obtained by continuous imaging periods of 2.5 min, followed by ∼2-min pause. Interphase SUM-AP-2.1 cells were imaged by scanning the sample stage with step sizes of 450 nm (LLSM.1) or 500 nm (LLSM.2) and excitation NA of 0.44/0.55 (LLSM.1) or 0.35/0.44 (LLSM.2). The z-axis step sizes were ∼235 or ∼261 nm, corresponding to pre-deskewed volume data sets of ∼13 × 50 × 36 μm or 128 × 512 × 81 pixels (LLSM.1) and ∼80 × 80 × 35 μm or 768 × 768 × 70 pixels (LLSM.2), respectively. The time series lasted 5 min, and each stack was obtained during a period of ∼2.8–3.0 s (which included a 1.5-s pause between time points for data acquired using LLSM.1).

The BSC1 CAAX-eGFP-H2B-mCherry cells were prepared and plated as described for the SUM-AP-2.1 cells. These cells were imaged using LLSM.1 with an excitation NA of 0.325/0.4; eGFP-CAAX was excited using a 488-nm laser operating at ∼68 μW, and H2B-mCherry was excited using a 560-nm laser operating at ∼20 μW. Each plane was imaged for 30 ms and spaced 250 nm apart along the z-axis (see schematic representation in Figure 3A) by jointly scanning the detection objective and the dithered light sheet; a total volume of ∼50 × 50 × 38 μm was continuously imaged every 120 s. Time series used to generate figures and, when indicated, movies were deconvolved in MATLAB using the Lucy–Richardson algorithm (deconvolution algorithm in MATLAB) by providing measured background and an experimentally measured PSF for 15 iterations on a 3-GHz 8-core Intel Xeon E5 Apple Mac Pro with 128 GB of memory. Most 3D renderings were generated using FEI’s Amira versions 5.6 and 6.0. Both LLSMs were operated using custom LabVIEW (National Instruments) software on a 3.47-GHz Intel Xeon X5690 workstation with 96 GB of memory running a Windows 7 operating system.

**Postprocessing of raw data volumes.** Data volumes were acquired as multipage TIFF files, with each slice of a volume corresponding to a cross-section of the sample. The images in the raw data appeared as a shear-transformed representation of the sample because the samples visualized with scan mode (sample moved along the s-axis) were scanned at a fixed angle to the glass coverslip of 32.8° (LLSM.1) or 31.5° (LLSM.2). To enable data processing in real-world coordinates, these volumes were deskewed using an inverse shear transform (imwarp function in MATLAB). Visualization of the volumetric images was further facilitated by presenting the coverslip oriented horizontally, after applying a scaling factor to correct for anisotropy between x, y, and z sampling, followed by rotation by the scanning angle.

**Automated detection in three dimensions of clathrin-coated structures.** Fluorescence-tagged clathrin-coated structures generate a diffraction-limited signal and are therefore accurately detected through numerical fitting with a model of the microscope PSF. The
shape of this function for the lattice light-sheet microscope is well approximated by a 3D Gaussian function. Owing to the separability (by multiplication) of a multidimensional Gaussian function into its one-dimensional components, this approximation leads to a computationally efficient approach for the detection of diffraction-limited signals. To this end, we generalized an approach developed for TIRF microscopy, which relied on a Gaussian model for the detection of diffraction-limited spot signals in 2D data (Aguet et al., 2013).

A key component of the method is an efficient, filter-based implementation of a test to determine the statistical significance of the fluorescence at every voxel in a data volume. Briefly, the approach consists of the following three steps: 1) identification of voxels containing a statistically significant fluorescence signal; 2) numerical fitting of a 3D Gaussian model at every location with significant signal to determine fluorescence intensity and subvoxel localization; 3) statistical testing of the fitted intensity against background signal. The proposed detection framework is based on the assumption that the fluorescence signals measured from coated pits can be described by a Gaussian PSF function and by an additive white Gaussian background and residual signals for normality using the Anderson–Darling test. In the proposed framework, the 3D image of a coated pit was thus modeled as

\[ h(x; \mu, A, c) = A g(x; \mu, \sigma) + c + n(x) \]

where \( x = \{x, y, z\} \) are discrete voxel coordinates, \( A \) is the fluorescence amplitude, \( c \) is a constant representing the local background intensity for the coated pit, and \( g(x; \mu, \sigma) = \exp(-((x - \mu)^2 + (y - \mu)^2 + (z - \mu)^2) / (2\sigma^2)) \) defines the Gaussian approximation of the microscope PSF. The SDs \( \sigma_x \) and \( \sigma_z \) denoted vectorially as \( \sigma \), are fixed parameters and will henceforth be omitted from the notation for simplicity; their estimation is described at the end of this section.

Noise was assumed to follow a Gaussian distribution with SD \( \sigma \) over the support of the coated pit, that is, \( n(x) \sim N(0, \sigma^2) \). The problem of detecting a diffraction-limited signal can then be formulated as a least-squares minimization problem: at a candidate location, the parameters, \( \mu, A \) and \( c \) of the model are estimated around a candidate location \( k = \{k_x, k_y, k_z\} \) in an image volume \( f(x) \) by subvoxel localization through the minimization of

\[ \mathcal{V} = \sum_{x \in s} (h(x; \mu, A, c) - f(x))^2 \]

The spatial support was defined as \( S : x \in [-2\sigma_x, \ldots, 2\sigma_x] \times [-2\sigma_y, \ldots, 2\sigma_y] \times [-2\sigma_z, \ldots, 2\sigma_z] \) centered on \( k \). Coated-pit fluorescence was considered significant and retained for further analysis if the estimated amplitude \( \hat{A} \) was above a defined threshold level of the local background noise distribution (see later discussion).

Using the foregoing model, we obtain a pixel-level mask of significant signal positions by minimizing

\[ \mathcal{V} = \sum_{x \in s} (h(x; 0, A, c) - f(x))^2 \]

at each voxel \( k \) in frame \( f \), i.e., by minimizing

\[ \nabla k = \sum_{x \in s} (A g(x; \mu, \sigma) + c - f(x))^2 \]

where \( g(x) \) denotes \( g(x; 0) \). Specifically, estimates of the amplitude \( A \) and local background \( c \) for the Gaussian centered at each voxel \( k \) are obtained by solving the system

\[ \frac{\partial \mathcal{V}[k]}{\partial A} = \sum_{x \in s} 2g(x)(Ag(x) + c - f(x - k)) = 0 \]

\[ \frac{\partial \mathcal{V}[k]}{\partial c} = \sum_{x \in s} 2(Ag(x) + c - f(x - k)) = 0 \]

yielding

\[ \hat{A}[k] = \frac{\sum_{x \in s} f(x - k)g(x) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x \in s} g(x) \sum_{x \in s} f(x - k)}{\sum_{x \in s} g(x)^2 - \frac{1}{n} \left( \sum_{x \in s} g(x) \right)^2} \]

\[ \hat{c}[k] = \frac{\sum_{x \in s} f(x - k) - \hat{A}[k] \sum_{x \in s} g(x)}{n} \]

where \( n \) is the number of voxels in \( S \). By defining \( \gamma_1 = \sum_{x \in s} g(x) \) and \( \gamma_2 = \sum_{x \in s} g(x)^2 \) (this is numerically more accurate than using the corresponding analytical values), we can rewrite these equations as

\[ \hat{A}[k] = \frac{(f \ast g)[k] - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x \in s} (f \ast u)[k]}{\gamma_2 - \frac{1}{n} \gamma_1} \]

\[ \hat{c}[k] = \frac{(f \ast u)[k] - \gamma_1 \hat{A}[k]}{n} \]

where the asterisk denotes convolution and \( u(x) \) is a summation filter defined over \( S \), that is, \( u(x) = 1 \) if \( x \in S \); 0 otherwise.

To identify voxels with a significant value of \( \hat{A} \) by means of a statistical test, estimates of the uncertainties on \( \hat{A} \) and the background noise, given by the residuals of the fit, are needed. At each voxel \( k \), the residual sum of squares (RSS) of the fit is given by

\[ \text{RSS}[k] = \gamma_1 \hat{A}[k]^2 - 2\hat{A}[k](f \ast g)[k] - \gamma_1 \hat{c}[k] + (f \ast u)[k] - 2\hat{c}[k](f \ast u)[k] + n\hat{c}[k]^2 \]

and the variance of the residuals is calculated as

\[ \sigma^2[k] = \frac{\text{RSS}[k] - (\gamma_1 \hat{A}[k] + n\hat{c}[k] - (f \ast u)[k])/n}{n-1} \]

The uncertainty (SD) on \( \hat{A}[k] \) is obtained by error propagation:

\[ \sigma^2[k] = \sqrt{\left( \frac{\text{RSS}[k]}{n-3} \right) \left( \frac{J^T J)^{-1}}{n-1} \right)} \]

where \( J = [g1] \) is the Jacobian matrix (identical for all voxel positions), \( g \) is the column-vector representation of \( g(x) \), and \( I \) is the unit vector. The probability densities of the fluorescence amplitude and noise in support \( S \) at each voxel are \( N(\hat{A}[k], \sigma^2[k]) \) and \( N(0, \sigma^2[k]) \), respectively.

An estimated amplitude was considered significant if its value was above a threshold value \( \kappa_0 \) of the noise distribution, where \( \kappa = \sqrt{2} \text{erf}^{-1}(1 - 2\alpha) \) and \( \alpha \) is the significance level (i.e., \( \alpha = 0.05 \)). Significance was determined using a one-sided, two-sample \( t \) test with \( H_0: \hat{A} \leq \kappa_0, \) yielding the statistic

\[ T[k] = \sqrt{n} \frac{\hat{A}[k] - \kappa_0}{\sqrt{\sigma^2[k] + \kappa^2 s^2[k]}} \]

where the uncertainty on \( \sigma \) is calculated using an estimator for the SE of the variance:

\[ s^2[k] = \frac{\sigma^2[k]}{\sqrt{2(n-1)}} \]
A mask of significant voxels was then obtained as \( m[k] = p[k] < \alpha \), where \( p \) is the \( p \) value of the test.

Candidate coated-pit signals were identified as statistically significant voxels \( m[k] \) in that coincided with local maxima of the 3D Laplacian-of-Gaussian filtered image volume \( f[x] \) (Aguet et al., 2013). At each candidate location, a 3D Gaussian fit was performed by minimization of Eq. 1, yielding estimates of \( \lambda \), \( c \), and \( \mu \) at sub-voxel resolution. The significance of the resulting amplitude estimate \( \lambda \) was then tested using Eq. 2.

In areas of high coated-pit density, local maxima occurring within the same mask region were either localized individually or through a mixture-model extension of the fitting approach, replacing the single Gaussian in Eq. 1 with a sum of Gaussians. In the latter case, automated selection of the optimal number of mixture components was performed based on iterative \( F \) tests incrementally identifying the statistical justification for additional components. In all instances, each estimated amplitude was individually tested for significance based on the criterion of Eq. 2. The algorithm was implemented as a C/MEX function for MATLAB (MathWorks, Natick, MA) using nonlinear optimization routines from the GNU Scientific Library (https://www.gnu.org/software/gsl/). These routines provide a robust and efficient implementation of the Levenberg–Marquardt algorithm.

The SDs \( \sigma_x \) and \( \sigma_y \) of the 3D Gaussian PSF were precalculated by fitting the model to an average of bright coated-pit signals or to PSF measurements obtained with fluorescent beads with the SDs as free parameters.

**Automated tracking of clathrin-coated structure dynamics.**

Coated pit trajectories were calculated from the detections obtained in individual frames with the u-track software package (Jaqaman et al., 2008), using the parameters described in Aguet et al. (2013). The u-track software implements tracking in a generic \( n \)-dimensional framework, and thus few adaptations were required. Positions in voxel coordinates were rescaled to correct for \( z \)-anisotropy. Tracking was performed using positional information only (ignoring amplitude values), and merging and splitting of tracks was enabled. Coated structures forming in close vicinity (i.e., within the search radius used for linking individual detections) were thus identified as compound tracks and excluded from further analysis. Tracks were postprocessed to identify valid trajectories as described in Aguet et al. (2013).

**Calculation of lifetime distributions and intensity cohorts.**

Lifetime distributions, intensity cohorts, and initiation density statistics were calculated as described in Aguet et al. (2013). Event densities were calculated using all trajectories with lifetimes of \( >10 \) or \( >25 \) s (equivalent to at least four to eight \( z \)-stacks, respectively) without the need to include filtering of trajectories with gaps (missing frames) because of the relatively high signal-to-noise ratios of the LLSM data.

**Surface area and volume measurements.**

The signal-to-noise ratio of cytosolic signal relative to background in SUM-AP-2.1 cell data was sufficiently high to apply threshold-based segmentation to generate a mask of the cell outline. Specifically, cell masks were obtained by 1) smoothing the deskewed data volumes with a Gaussian filter (SD = 2) and interpolating to isotropic voxels, 2) applying the Otsu thresholding method, and 3) closing potential holes resulting from lower fluorescence at chromatid locations (using the \textit{imfill} function in MATLAB). Surface area and volume traces extracted from BSC1 cells and zebrafish eye and spinal tissue were smoothed using the smooth function with the default parameters in MATLAB.

**Implementation.** All image and data analyses were carried out in MATLAB, using custom-written software available from https://github.com/francois-a/llsmtools.

**Zebrafish embryos**

**Animal studies.** Zebrafish work was carried out with the approval of Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee at Harvard University under Protocol 04487.

**Crossing of zebrafish embryos.** To image dividing cells in the developing eye of zebrafish, we used 1) the fluorescent transgenic zebrafish strain \( Tg(\text{actb}2:\text{mem-cit}-\text{citrine}^{\text{ym}30}) \) and 2) \( Tg(\text{actb}2:\text{mem-citrine}/\text{actb}2:\text{Hsa.H2b-tdT}^{\text{Tomato}^{\text{ym}32/m33}} \), where \( \text{hm}32 \) and \( \text{hm}33 \) are two separate alleles of divergent constructs. These three alleles were combined for the brightest membrane signal. The transgenic was generated using the Tol2 method (Gao et al., 2014), where \( \text{mem} \) corresponds to two copies of the plasma membrane–localized palmitoylation/myristoylation motif of \( \lambda \) kinase of the sequence ATGGGGCTCAATCAAGAGGAGGCAAGGACAACCTGAACGACGACGAGGCCGCCATGGGCTGGCAGTACCAAGACGCGAGCGAAGCAACCTGAAAGGACGACGAGGCCGCCATGGGCTGGCAGTACCAAGACGCGAGCGAAGCAACCTGAAAGGACGACGAGGCCGCCATGGGCTGGCAGTACCAAGACGCGAGCGAAGCAACCTGAAAGGACGACGAGGCCGCCATGGGCTGGCAGTACCAAGACGCGAGCGAAGCAACCTGAAAGGACGACGAGGCCGCCATGGGCTGGCAGTACCAAGACGCGAGCGAAGCAACCTGAAAGGACGACGAGCC

**LLSM in vivo imaging of zebrafish embryos.** The zebrafish embryos were imaged using the LLSM.2 from the Kirchhausen laboratory.
in 1× Danieau buffer at 22 ± 2°C starting at 17–22 h postfertilization. A light sheet was generated using a square lattice configuration in ditherved mode. Each plane of tissue was illuminated for 40 ms using a 488-nm laser operating at ~6 mW, with ~20 μW measured at the back aperture of the excitation objective. The inner and outer NAs of excitation were 0.35 and 0.44, respectively, with a beam length on the light sheet of >100 μm; the nondiffracting region used for imaging had an approximate length of 30 μm. The optical planes were acquired with a Hamamatsu ORCA-Flash 4.0 sCMOS camera. Cells in the developing eye were imaged by scanning the sample stage with a 400-nm step size along the s-axis, equivalent to ~209-nm steps along the z-axis (see schematic representation in Figure 7A), capturing a volume of ~80 × 80 × 100 μm every 16.0 s (including a 6-s pause between z-stacks). At each time point, we recorded an image stack volume deskewed at 31.5° and stored as 32-bit images to avoid rounding errors from the interpolated image slices; the image stacks were then cropped to 768 × 768 × 251 pixels and used for surface area and volume determinations. The LLSM.2 was under control of custom LabVIEW (National Instruments) software operating on a 3.47-GHz Intel Xeon X5690 workstation with 96 GB of memory under Windows 7 operating system. As indicated, the zebrafish figures and movies were deconvolved for 15 iterations using the Lucy–Richardson algorithm in MATLAB with an experimentally measured PSF. This postacquisition processing was done immediately after acquisition using a 3-GHz eight-core Intel Xeon E5 Apple Mac Pro with 128 GB of memory.

Detection and analysis of surface area and volume in isolated BSC1 cells and cells in zebrafish embryos. The single BSC1 cells and the multicellular assemblies in the imaged tissues were segmented using ACME (Mosaliganti et al., 2012). Briefly, the dekshed images were 1) preprocessed using a median filter to remove high-frequency noise, 2) down-sampled to make x-, y-, and z-voxels isotropic, which is necessary for optimal watershed operation, 3) filtered using a combination of a Hessian matrix of the intensity function and normalized Gaussian derivatives for planarity detection to locate membrane planes, 4) tensor voted to fill any structural gaps in the membrane voxels, and 5) segmented using the watershed algorithm, in which the salient images generated from tensor voting served as a topographic map for robustly delineating cell boundaries. Errors in segmentation (primarily hypersegmentation) were manually corrected, and the cells were linked over time to compute and track the changes in surface area and volume. The surface area and volumes were calculated in MATLAB using the generated (and manually corrected, when necessary) watershed masks. The original ACME segmentation source code was modified and compiled to take advantage of the dynamic range of the 16-bit images acquired from the BSC1 cells expressing the eGFP-CAAX fluorescence plasma membrane marker, and the subsequent processing of segmentation corrections and surface area/volume calculations were performed as described for the zebrafish images.

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