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# Research Plan

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# Introduction

# Determine the mechanism by which highly enriched PtdIns*P*2 domains are stabilized

Recent studies have shown that submicron domains of PtdIns(4,5)*P*2 exist *in vivo* at physiological levels of monovalent and divalent cations.

These clusters reach a stable size around 80 nm.

PtdIns(4,5)*P*2 caries a large negative charge.

We have shown that Ca2+ is able to stabilize these clusters, in a limited fashion.

We have recently shown how Ca2+ can initiate the formation of clusters, however, it is not clear how clustesrs grow until they reach ~ 80 nm.

## References