Cells found to possess two mechanisms that allow them to respond to different force ranges

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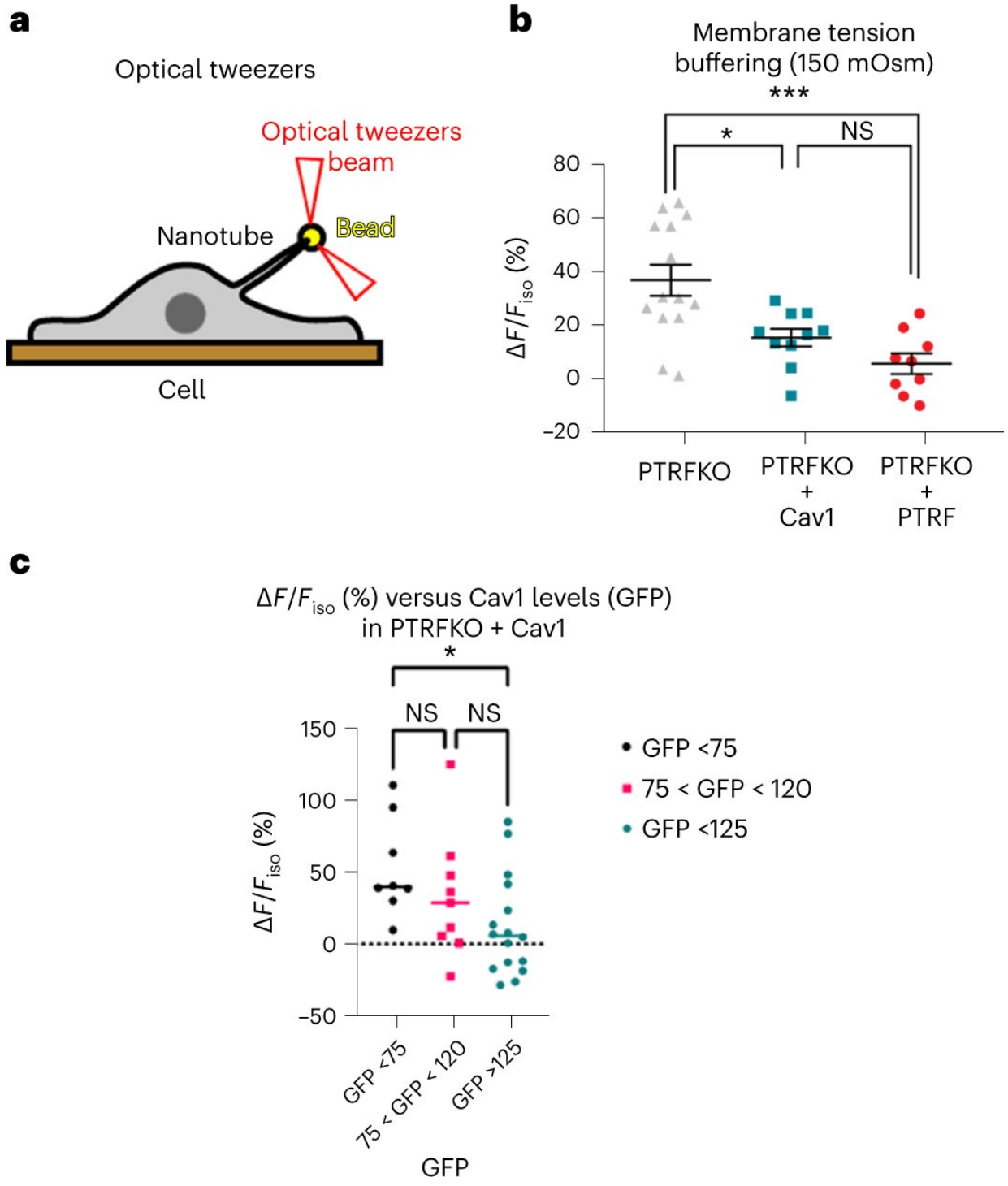

Cav1 buffers tension in the absence of caveolae. a, OT experiment scheme, indicating the cell, the OT beam, the cellular nanotube and the bead attached to the cell surface. b, Relative change of the mean tether force after hypo-osmotic shock (150 mOsm) for PTRFKO MEFs reconstituted with PTRF (n = 9), Cav1

(n = 10) or empty vector (n = 14). n indicates number of cells pooled from eight independent experiments. c, Relative change of the mean tether force after hypo-osmotic shock (60 mOsm) as a function of GFP intensity (which correlates with Cav1 levels, Extended Data Fig. 1; a. u., arbitrary units) of PTRFKO reconstituted with Cav1 (n = 33). n indicates number of cells pooled from six independent experiments. For b and c, individual values are plotted (data are presented as mean ± s.e.m.), statistical analysis strategy used was one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test, with significance assigned at *P