

A comparison of the total calcium influx with the quantal content shows that around 13,000 calcium ions flow in for each vesicle that is released. This value is similar to an estimate obtained in the squid giant synapse^{3,14}, but very different from another calyx-type preparation, the chick ciliary ganglion, where it has been suggested that under certain conditions less than 200 calcium ions are sufficient to cause vesicle release¹⁵. Similarly, we

3. Llinás, R., Sugimori, M. & Simon, S. M. *Proc. Natl Acad. Sci. USA* **79**, 2415–2419 (1982).
14. Llinás, R., Sugimori, M. & Silver, R. B. *Science* **256**, 677–679 (1992).
15. Stanley, E. F. *Neuron* **11**, 1007–1011 (1993).