



**Deep sequencing reveals that early reprogramming of
Arabidopsis root transcriptomes upon Ralstonia
solanacearum infection**

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1 Deep sequencing reveals that early reprogramming of Arabidopsis root
2 transcriptomes upon *Ralstonia solanacearum* infection

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SUMMARY

Bacterial wilt caused by the bacterial pathogen *Ralstonia solanacearum* is one of the most devastating crop diseases worldwide. The molecular mechanisms controlling the early stages of *R. solanacearum* colonization in the root remain unknown. In this study we established four stages in the early interaction of the pathogen with Arabidopsis roots and determined the transcriptional profiles of these stages of infection. A total 2698 genes were identified as differentially expressed genes during the initial 96h after infection, with the majority of changes in gene expression occurring after pathogen-triggered root hair development was observed. Further analysis of differentially-expressed genes indicated sequential activation of multiple hormone signaling cascades, including abscissic acid (ABA), auxin, jasmonic acid (JA), and ethylene (ET). Simultaneous impairment of ABA receptor genes increased plant sensitivity to *R. solanacearum*, but did not affect primary root growth inhibition, root hair and lateral root formation caused by *R. solanacearum*. This indicates that ABA signaling positively regulates root defense to *R. solanacearum*. Moreover, transcriptional changes of genes involved in primary root, lateral root and root hair formation exhibited high temporal dynamics upon infection. Taken together, our results suggest that successful infection of *R. solanacearum* on roots is a highly programmed process involving in hormone crosstalk.

61 **INTRODUCTION**

62 *Ralstonia solanacearum*, a soil-borne phytopathogen, causes devastating
63 bacterial wilt disease on crops and leads to huge economical loss (Mansfield
64 et al., 2012). The bacterium enters into the root epidermis through natural
65 openings or wounds, crosses the cortex and endodermis and finally reaches
66 the root xylem. In the xylem, *R. solanacearum* starts extensive colonization,
67 spreading to the aerial part of the infected plant along the vascular system and
68 finally kills the host by blocking water transport from root to shoot, which
69 causes the wilting symptoms (Genin and Denny, 2012). Due to its wide host
70 range, long persistence in soil and water and broad geographical distribution,
71 *R. solanacearum* was ranked as the second most important bacterial plant
72 pathogen (Mansfield et al., 2012).

73 The interaction between *R. solanacearum* and Arabidopsis has been
74 successfully used for more than twenty years as a model to study plant
75 defense (Deslandes et al., 1998). However, our knowledge about the
76 molecular mechanisms used by Arabidopsis to defend against *R.*
77 *solanacearum* is still limited. *RRS1-R* is the only *R. solanacearum* resistance
78 gene cloned from Arabidopsis and encodes a Toll-IL-1 receptor-nucleotide
79 binding site-leucine rich repeat (TIR-NB-LRR) resistance protein with a
80 C-terminal WRKY DNA-binding motif (Deslandes et al., 2002). In the absence
81 of PopP2, an effector from *R. solanacearum* GMI1000, *RRS1-R* forms
82 heterodimer complex with RPS4, another NB-LRR protein, localizes in the
83 nucleus and binds DNA through WRKY domain. When PopP2 is delivered into
84 the host cell through the Type Three Secretion System (TTSS), it directly
85 interacts with the RPS4/*RRS1-R* resistance complex and acetylates WRKY
86 domain of *RRS1-R* through its acetyltransferase activity, blocking
87 RPS4/*RRS1-R* DNA-binding activity and activating RPS4-mediated plant
88 resistance (Le Roux et al., 2015; Sarris et al., 2015).

89 It is widely recognized that the phytohormones salicylic acid (SA), jasmonate
90 (JA) and ethylene (ET) play a determinant role in plant defense to diverse

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3 91 pathogenic insects, bacteria and fungi. However it is still not clear what is the
4
5 92 precise role of these hormones in response to *R. solanacearum*. Arabidopsis
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7 93 mutants deficient in biosynthesis or signaling of SA, JA and ET have been
8
9 94 used to investigate their sensitivity to *R. solanacearum*, which has led
10
11 95 sometimes to contradictory results. For instance, while an increase or
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13 96 decrease of endogenous SA levels did not alter plant sensitivity to *R.*
14
15 97 *solanacearum* (Hirsch et al., 2002), depletion SA in *wat1* mutant though
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17 98 overexpression of the bacterial SA hydroxylase gene *NahG* restored plant
18
19 99 susceptibility to *R. solanacearum* (Denance et al., 2013). Mutation of EIN2, an
20
21 100 important component in ET signal transduction, dramatically delayed bacterial
22
23 101 wilt on Arabidopsis, which did not happen on *etr1-3*, *ein4-1* and *eni3-1*, other
24
25 102 ET insensitive mutants (Hirsch et al., 2002). In addition, while, the *jar1-1*
26
27 103 mutant -lacking the bioactive JA-Ile- shows the same sensitivity to *R.*
28
29 104 *solanacearum* as wild type plants (Hirsch et al., 2002), loss of function of the
30
31 105 JA receptor *COI1-1* enhances plant defense against to *R. solanacearum*
32
33 106 (Hernandez-Blanco et al., 2007).

34
35 107 WRKY transcription factors, critical players in modulating plant resistance to
36
37 108 phytopathogens, were also reported to function in plant defense to *R.*
38
39 109 *solanacearum*. WRKY27 mutation delays disease symptom development by
40
41 110 modulating signaling between the phloem and the xylem (Mukhtar et al., 2008).
42
43 111 Inactivation of WRKY53 also reduces wilt symptom caused by *R.*
44
45 112 *solanacearum* (Hu et al., 2008).

46
47 113 In roots, the cell wall is the first physical layer of plant defense against
48
49 114 pathogens. It is demonstrated that alteration of cell wall affects Arabidopsis
50
51 115 defense to *R. solanacearum*. Cellulose synthases are required for secondary
52
53 116 cell wall formation. Mutations of cellulose synthase genes (*CESA4*, *CESA7*
54
55 117 and *CESA8*) confer enhanced resistance to *R. solanacearum* independently of
56
57 118 SA, JA and ET but dependent on ABA (Hernandez-Blanco et al., 2007).
58
59 119 Similarly, the *WALLS ARE THIN 1* (*WAT1*) gene is essential for secondary cell
60
120 120 wall deposition. A mutation in *WAT1* leads to reduced cell elongation and

121 secondary wall thickness, but it also increases SA content and plant defense to
122 vascular *R. solanacearum* (Denance et al., 2013). Furthermore, pectin
123 homogalacturonan in the root cell wall was reported to be degraded after *R.*
124 *solanacearum* infection (Digonnet et al., 2012).

125 Transcriptional profiles by RNA-seq have been employed to look for
126 important events in plant defense against *R. solanacearum* in Arabidopsis. The
127 *R. solanacearum* $\Delta hrpB$ mutant has a dysfunctional TTSS and loses the
128 ability to invade host plants (Vasse et al., 2000). Plants infected with this
129 mutant exhibit increased plant defense to subsequent virulent strain infection.
130 Microarray analysis of transcriptional changes in aerial part of plants treated
131 with GMI1000 $\Delta hrpB$ indicated that 26% of up-regulated genes were involved
132 in the metabolism and signaling of ABA (Feng et al., 2012). In addition,
133 comparison of transcriptional profiles from the aerial part of Arabidopsis Col-0
134 inoculated with GMI1000 at several time points identified many differentially
135 expressed genes associated with ABA signaling pathways (Hu et al., 2008).

136 However, previous microarray studies focused on transcriptional changes in
137 the aerial part of root-inoculated Arabidopsis with GMI1000. Since *R.*
138 *solanacearum* is soil-borne and infects plant roots, direct investigation of
139 transcriptional changes in infected plant roots at a series of time points will
140 help disclosing the molecular mechanism of *R. solanacearum* infection. In this
141 study, by means of high-resolution temporal analysis of host global
142 transcriptional changes following pathogen infection, we identified several
143 important events as the activation of the biosynthesis and signaling of different
144 hormones, and further connected root structure changes to the transcriptional
145 reprogramming following *R. solanacearum* infection. Our data provides a
146 cornerstone to understand complicated regulation networks during the
147 infection process of *R. solanacearum* in the root.

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151 RESULTS

152 Characterization of Root Morphology Changes Following GMI1000 153 Infection

154 As previously reported, Arabidopsis seedlings roots exhibited primary root
155 growth retardation, *de novo* root hair formation and cell death appearance
156 around the root tip at 9 days after GMI1000 treatment (Lu et al., 2018). To
157 refine the appearance time of the three root phenotypes, we investigated the
158 root elongation of Arabidopsis seedling after infection with GMI1000 over time.
159 Primary roots kept growing the first 24 hours post-inoculation (hpi). At 48 hpi,
160 primary root growth was found to be inhibited by GMI1000 (Fig. 1A). Root hairs
161 covered root tips around 24 hpi, while they did not appear in water-treated
162 seedlings (Fig. 1B). Roots were immersed in Propidium Iodide (PI) -a
163 DNA/RNA dye used to investigate cell integrity- and observed under confocal
164 microscope. Cells in the root meristem area were alive at 24 hpi but already
165 dead at 48 hpi (Fig. 1C). In addition, lateral roots emerged from primary roots
166 treated with GMI1000 at 72 hpi and became apparent at 96 hpi. The number of
167 these secondary roots on Arabidopsis root treated with GMI1000 was 4-5 fold
168 higher than in water-treated plants (Fig. 1A and Fig. S1). According to these
169 root structure changes over time, we divided the initial root infection by *R.*
170 *solanacearum* into four phenotypic stages: No symptoms (NS) stage at 0-12
171 hpi, Root Hair (RH) emergence stage at 12-24 hpi, Primary root growth arrest
172 and Cell death (PC) stage at 24-48 hpi and Lateral Root (LR) emergence stage
173 at 48-72 hpi.

175 Time Series of Global Transcriptional Re-Programming in Roots 176 Challenged with GMI1000

177 To understand the events taking place at different infection stages of *R.*
178 *solanacearum*, we infected 7-day-old seedling roots *in vitro*, and collected root
179 samples at 0 hpi, 6 hpi, 12 hpi, 24 hpi, 48 hpi and 96 hpi, extracted total RNA
180 and sequenced the global transcripts of GMI1000-infected roots. Around 600

seedling roots were pooled into one sample. Three biological replicates per time point were directly subjected to RNA-Illumina sequencing. An average of 33.9 million clean reads (range from 26.9-41.5 million) with Q30 > 90% were obtained per sample. More than 94 percent of clean reads were mapped to the Arabidopsis genome (Table S1). Aiming to disclose the molecular mechanism of early infection process of *R. solanacearum*, we respectively compared *R. solanacearum*-infected root transcriptomes at different infection time points with those obtained in water-treated roots after 96h and in GMI1000-treated roots at time 0h. The time series expression profiles identified a total of 2698 Arabidopsis genes as differentially expressed genes (DEGs) based on their significance in fold-change expression ($\text{padj} < 0.05$) and at least a two-fold change in expression level ($-1 > \log_2 > 1$) (Fig. 2 and Supplemental Data Set 1).

To analyze the overall patterns in gene expression during *R. solanacearum* infection, the 2698 DEGs were clustered into 11 hierarchical clusters based on their expression patterns over time (Fig. 2). The list of genes in each cluster is presented in Supplemental data Set 2. These clusters group sets of genes that were sequentially induced upon pathogen challenge over time. The cluster VI genes started increasing at 12 hpi and peaked at HR stage (24 hpi), then slowly dropped back to basal level, which was the most quick response to *R. solanacearum* infection. The maximum level of cluster IV and V genes was at RH stage and PC stage (48 hpi), later 12h than that of cluster VI. Then cluster V quickly decreased. Comparing with relative long-lasting expression pattern of cluster V and IV, the highest expression level of cluster III genes was more concentrated in PC stage. The cluster I and II genes went up to maximum level at LR stage (72 hpi) and 96 hpi, which are the last induction clusters. The down-regulated genes also showed temporally modulated expression pattern. The earliest repressed-gene clusters are cluster VIII and XI, which happened at RH stage. Interestingly, unlike cluster VIII maintaining lower expression, a few genes in cluster XI suffered a second induction at LR stage. The lowest expression level of cluster IX and cluster X occurred at LR

stage. The expression of cluster VII were inhibited at LR stage and 96 hpi (Fig.2).

To check whether the co-expressing genes in the same cluster participated in similar biological processes, we investigated over-representation of Gene Ontology (GO) terms in these groups. The selected over-represented GO terms are shown at the right of each gene expression cluster in figure 2. Cell wall organization genes enriched in cluster VI unregulated before the appearance of root hairs (12 hpi) and reached their highest level at RH stage in response to the pathogen, reflecting cell wall remodeling has a specific role in the plant response to GMI1000 infection. A significant GO term in cluster V was lignin metabolic process. Cluster IV contained major GO terms: tryptophan metabolic process, auxin metabolic process and glucosinolate biosynthetic process, which share major components in their biosynthesis and peak at RH and PC stage. The GO term "response to auxin" was over-presented in cluster I, cluster II and cluster III and strongly induced during PC stage and LR stage (48-72 hpi), later 24 hour than GO term "auxin metabolic process" in cluster VI (Fig. 2). Additionally GO terms such as "response to JA", "response to abiotic stress", "response to heat" and "response to hydrogen peroxide" were also overrepresented in clusters I, II and III. GO terms related with plant defense such as "response to chitin", "response to bacterium", "response to SA" and "defense response" were enriched in cluster VII, which were significantly suppressed during LR stage (72 hpi). Interestingly, GO terms "cell to cell junction" and "cell wall organization" also were enriched in Cluster VIII were significantly suppressed at PC and LR stage. Cluster X genes were significantly related with GO term "root hair cell differentiation", which suppressed when lateral root emerging.

Biological processes that take place during *R. solanacearum* infection are likely to affect the outcome of the plant-pathogen interaction. Therefore we further investigated enriched GO terms in the DEGs at single time points irrespective of the previous clustering (Fig. S2). This analysis revealed that cell

241 wall organization-associated genes were enriched at NS and RH stages,
242 suggesting that these genes probably contribute to loosening the cell wall and
243 cell-to-cell junctions, which may help *R. solanacearum* crossing the cortex and
244 endodermis at early infection stages. The term “tryptophan metabolic process”
245 was overrepresented in up-regulated DEGs at RH stage, which may point at
246 tryptophan as a likely substrate for auxin biosynthesis. “Response to biotic
247 stimulus” was a GO term overrepresented in up-regulated DEGs at RH stage
248 and PC stage. “Response to hormones” was overrepresented in genes
249 specifically upregulated at PC and LR stages (48 hpi and 72 hpi, respectively),
250 which may reflect the root structure changes that take place at the LR stage.
251 The GO term “response to abiotic stimulus” was also highlighted in the
252 upregulated DEGs at PC stage. The upregulated “Glucosinolate biosynthetic
253 process” term spanned from LR stage to 96 hpi. JA is involved in root
254 development and regulation of plant defense. The DEGs related to “Response
255 to JA” term remarkably increased at 96 hpi. In down-regulated DEGs, the
256 terms “transport”, “cell wall organization” and “root development terms” were
257 over-represented at PC and LR stage. These sequentially overrepresented
258 GO terms during early *R. solanacearum* infection indicate that infection is a
259 programmed dynamic event from the very beginning of the plant-pathogen
260 interaction.

261

262 **Ethylene-, Jasmonate-, Auxin- and Abscissic acid-dependent signalling** 263 **are altered following *R. solanacearum* infection**

264 The first and rate-limiting step in ethylene (ET) biosynthesis is the
265 conversion of S-adenosyl Methionine to 1-aminocyclopropane-1-carboxylic
266 acid (ACC) by ACC synthase (ACS). Five out of the nine ACS genes in the
267 Arabidopsis genome (ACS2, ACS6, ACS7, ACS8 and ACS9) were induced at
268 PC stage. Interestingly, the expression of ACS5 was inhibited at the same time
269 (Fig. S3A). No ACC oxidase gene was identified in our RNA-seq data.
270 However, its regulator SHYG was induced at RH and PC stage (Rauf et al.,

2013) (Fig. S3A). Moreover, *ERF* transcriptional factors including *ORA59* and *ERF71* in response to ET were up-regulated or down-regulated following GMI1000 infection (Fig. S3A). These findings suggest that ET biosynthesis and signaling are involved in *R. solanacearum* infection.

The expression of several genes involved in jasmonic acid (JA) biosynthesis and degradation was also altered in our RNA-seq data. For example, *LOX1* and *LOX2*, encoding 13-lipoxygenase were induced at PC stage. LOXs are responsible for converting α -linolenic acid to 13-hydroxyperoxy-octadecatrienoic acid (13-HPOT) in plastids, which is the first step in the production of the JA precursor (Wasternack and Hause, 2013). However, Acyl-coenzyme A oxidase (*ACX4*) and 3-ketoacyl-CoA thiolase (*KAT5*), which catalize JA biosynthesis from this precursor (Li et al., 2005) were repressed after inoculation. Three of the four Arabidopsis jasmonate-induced oxygenases (*JAOs*), which inactivate JA through hydroxylation (Caarls et al., 2017), were highly expressed in our data. Similarly, a hydroxyjasmonate sulfotransferase (*ST2A*) that inactivates JA functions (Gidda et al., 2003) was highly induced at LR stage (Fig. S3B). Jasmonate ZIM domain Proteins (*JAZ1*, *JAI3*, *JAI5* and *JAZ10*), key negative regulators of JA signaling pathway, were strongly activated at LR stage and 96 hpi (Fig. S3B). In summary, the decrease in JA biosynthesis and increase in JA degradation and negative regulators suggests an inhibition of this pathway by *R. solanacearum* at late infection stages.

The components in auxin metabolism, auxin signaling and auxin transport were up-regulated from NS stage to LR stage (Fig. 3). *TRP4*, *TRP5*, *TRP1*, *TRP3* and *TSB2* encode five key components in the transformation of chorismate to the auxin precursor tryptophan (Zhao, 2010). All of them were up-regulated at RH stage (Fig 3A and Fig 3B). Members of two of the four tryptophan-dependent auxin synthesis pathways described in Arabidopsis (Zhao, 2010; Rosquete et al., 2012) were up-regulated at RH stage (genes *CYP79B2*, *CYP79B3*, *NIT1*, *NIT3* and *YUC9*) (Fig. 3A and Fig. 3B). In addition,

the expression of *DAO1* and *DAO2* -encoding genes that oxidate IAA to oxIAA and GH3 family genes, which conjugate amino acids to IAA (Rosquete et al., 2012) were all induced at RH and PC stages (Fig. 3A and Fig. 3B). Accumulation of auxin-responsive transcripts such *SAURs* and *Aux/IAAs* was observed at PC stage (Woodward and Bartel, 2005), which is 24 hours later than the peak auxin synthesis genes (Fig. 3B and Fig. S4). The expression of auxin response factors such as *Auxin Response Factor 4 (ARF4)* increased during infection (Fig. 3C), as well as the expression of auxin efflux transporters (*PINs* and *ABCB4*) (Rosquete et al., 2012), which increased at PC and LR stages (Fig. 3D). Moreover, a few regulators of stability of auxin transporters (*PATL2*, *RAM2*, *PBP1*, *PILS7*, *SMXL8* and *PID*) were also differentially expressed in our data.

Our RNA-seq data also identified a group of genes that were associated with abscissic acid (ABA) metabolism and signaling (Fig. 4A). The expression of *CYP707A*, which oxidizes and inactivates ABA (Saito et al., 2004), was induced at all time points after 24 hpi. Expression of the ABA receptor *PYL5* was inhibited after infection (Fig. 4A). And the *ABI2*, *HAB1* and *PP2C5* genes, encoding protein phosphatases that suppress ABA signalling through dephosphorylation of *SNRK2* proteins (Umezawa et al., 2009), were both up-regulated at PC stage. Expression of *OST1*, essential for ABA signaling (Fujii et al., 2009), showed a peak at PC stage, and then quickly decreased at LR stage. On the contrary, other *SNRK* family genes were inhibited at PC and LR stage (Fig. 4A). Finally, expression of the ABA-dependent transcription factor *ABF2* (Fujita et al., 2005) peaked at RH stage, 24 hours earlier than *OST1* (Fig. 4A).

ABA signaling is involved in plant resistance to *R. solanacearum*

Next, we investigated whether the alteration of ABA biosynthesis and signalling caused upon *R. solanacearum* infection had an impact on plant responses to this pathogen. To this end, we took advantage of available

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4 331 Arabidopsis mutants: the quintuple *pyl1/pyl2/pyl4/pyl5/pyl8* (12458) and the
5 332 sextuple *pyr1/pyl1/pyl2/pyl4/pyl5/pyl8* (112458) mutants, which are devoid of
6
7 333 multiple ABA receptors and show reduced vegetative growth and seed
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9 334 production (Gonzalez-Guzman et al., 2012). We grew the Col-0 accession and
10
11 335 ABA receptor mutants and tested their sensitivities to *R. solanacearum*
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13 336 infection. Both mutant lines showed increased wilting symptoms at 15 days
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15 337 post-inoculation compared with their wild type counterpart (Fig. 4B). This was
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17 338 translated into a significantly higher plant mortality rates in the mutants than in
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19 339 wild type plants (Fig. 4C). These results indicate a role of ABA signaling in
20
21 340 plant resistance to *R. solanacearum*. We further tested if ABA signaling could
22
23 341 affect the previously-described root morphology changes induced by the
24
25 342 bacterium. The sextuple mutant exhibited root morphogenetic responses
26
27 343 identical to wild type plants (Fig. 5), suggesting that ABA signaling is not
28
29 344 required for *R. solanacearum*-induced root structural changes.
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31 346 **Regulation of Plant Defense Response genes in *R. solanacearum*-infected** 32 33 347 **Roots**

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35 348 Among the 2698 genes differentially-expressed after *R. solanacearum*
36
37 349 infection 109 have been previously involved in plant defense (Fig. S5 and
38
39 350 Supplemental Data Set 3). RLK3, RD19 and WRKY27 regulate plant defense
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41 351 to *R. solanacearum*. RLK3 encoding a cysteine-rich repeat receptor like kinase
42
43 352 was induced in the Arabidopsis ecotype Niederzenz (Nd-1) infected with *R.*
44
45 353 *solanacearum* GMI1000 (Czernic et al., 1999). RLK3 was strongly induced at
46
47 354 12 hpi and reached a peak at PC stage in infected plants (Fig. S5). Surprisingly,
48
49 355 RD19, a cysteine protease required for RRS1-R-mediated resistance to *R.*
50
51 356 *solanacearum* (Bernoux et al., 2008) was strongly inhibited upon infection (Fig.
52
53 357 S5). Similarly, WRKY27, which was shown to promote disease symptom
54
55 358 development (Bernoux et al., 2008), was repressed upon infection (Fig. S5).
56
57 359 The negative regulators of pathogen-associated molecular patterns
58
59 360 (PAMP)-triggered immunity (PTI) PUB22 and PUB23 (Trujillo et al., 2008),
60

361 were differentially expressed with PUB22 downgoing and a earlier induction
362 peak on PUB23. *LYK4* participating in sensing chitin was induced at 12h after
363 infection and the expression of other PTI regulators (*PEP1*, *PUB23* and
364 *MPK11*) was strongly induced at RH and LR stages. Interestingly, these genes
365 were inhibited at LR stage (Fig. S5). Finally, 6 WRKY, 2 ERF and 2 ANAC
366 transcription factors, key modulators of plant immunity, were also identified as
367 DEGs in our experiments (Supplemental Data Set 3).

368
369 **Transcriptional regulation of Programmed Plant Cell Death genes in *R.***
370 ***solanacearum*-infected roots**

371 Programmed cell death (PCD) in root tip cells was initiated around 24 hpi
372 and completed around 48 hpi after infection (Fig. 1C). In line with cell death
373 appearance in root meristem zone, many regulators of plant cell death (PCD)
374 were differentially expressed (Fig. 6). For instance, expression of two negative
375 regulators of cell death -*MC2* and *SYP122*- (Zhang et al., 2008) (Coll et al.,
376 2010) were strongly inhibited by *R. solanacearum* from RH stage on (Fig. 6A).
377 Consistent with down-regulation of *SYP122*, the expression of
378 mono-oxygenase1 (FMO1), required for SYP22-dependent lesion formation
379 reached a peak at 24 hours after infection (Fig. 6A). Auto-inhibited
380 Ca^{2+} -ATPase 4 (*ACA4*), also involved in regulation of PCD (Boursiac et al.,
381 2010) was repressed at 24-48 hpi (Fig. 6A). In addition, we also noticed plant
382 senescence genes associated with PCD differentially expressed (Fig. 6B).
383 *Oresara1* (*ORE1*), a transcription factor regulating ET-mediated age-induced
384 cell death, and WRKY57, a negative regulator of JA-induced leaf senescence
385 (Jiang et al., 2014) were both strongly induced at RH stage, the latter starting
386 induction at 12 hpi and decreasing at PC stage (Fig. 6B).

387
388 **Root Architecture Responses to *R. solanacearum* Infection**

389 Root hair formation was induced at RH stage at the root tip (Fig. 1B). We
390 thus scrutinized our transcriptomes for differentially-expressed genes

described in the literature to play a role in this process. We found the root hair initiation zinc finger protein 5 (ZFP5) (An et al., 2012) and the *Oxidative signal-inducible 1* (OXI1) kinase required for normal root hair development (Rentel et al., 2004) were induced at 6hpi, peaking at RH stage and returning to basal levels at LR stage (Fig. 7A). The *ERU*, *EXP7* and *LRX1* genes, involved in root hair elongation (Baumberger et al., 2001; Lin et al., 2011; Schoenaers et al., 2018), were also quickly turned on at NS stage (6-12 hpi) and inactivated at PC stage (Fig. 7A). According to these data, root hairs should appear on root tips just after 12 hpi. We thus analysed in further detail root hair appearance by observing infected root tips at 6, 12, 18 and 24 hpi. Appearance of root hairs around the root tip was observed at around 18 hours after infection (Fig. 7B), which correlates to the changes in root hair gene expression patterns.

Another dramatic response to *R. solanacearum* infection is root growth inhibition. In our transcriptome data, many regulators involved in primary root growth were identified (Fig. 8). The expression of several negative regulators of root growth increased after infection, reaching the highest levels at PC stage. These included the *CLV3/ESR-related peptide 20* (*CLE20*) (Meng and Feldman, 2010), the methyltransferase *PXMT1* (Chung et al., 2016), the triterpene synthesis genes *THAH1*, *THAD1* and *THAS1* (Field and Osbourn, 2008), the *LRP1* gene -involved in root growth retardation induced by phosphate deficiency (Svistoonoff et al., 2007) and *EFR*, whose gain-of-function mutant showed shorter primary roots in rice (Xiao et al., 2016). On the contrary, positive root growth regulators were repressed at PC stage. Amongst them are *GA3ox* catalyzing the final step in gibberellic acid (GA) biosynthesis (Mitchum et al., 2006) and *CLE6*, whose overexpression in a *ga3ox* mutant partially restored primary root growth (Bidadi et al., 2014). Therefore, coordinated expression of positive and negative regulators may control root growth inhibition induced by *R. solanacearum*.

The last morphogenetic change observed in infected roots was enhanced

appearance of secondary roots at 72 hpi. The transcript levels of the lateral root formation repressors CLE1, CLE3 and GLIP2 (Lee et al., 2009; Araya et al., 2014) were significantly decreased during LR stage. In addition, the positive secondary root regulators *GATA23*, were induced at 24 hpi and repressed from 48 to 96 hpi (Fig. 8). Interestingly, the action of *GATA23* is auxin-mediated (Xie et al., 2000; Lally et al., 2001; De Rybel et al., 2010; Lee and Kim, 2013), which suggests that auxin may be controlling this root response to *R. solanacearum*.

429

430 DISCUSSION

431 *R. solanacearum* causes genome-wide transcriptional reprogramming in 432 *Arabidopsis*

Transcriptional reprogramming in aboveground tissue following soil-drenched *R. solanacearum* has been previously reported in *Arabidopsis* (Hu et al., 2008; Feng et al., 2012). Leaf transcriptome analysis from susceptible plants showed that 40% of the up-regulated genes were involved in ABA biosynthesis and signaling (Hu et al., 2008), which is line with our root transcriptome results. Similarly Feng and colleagues found that 26% of the upregulated genes in the leaf transcriptome pretreated with nonpathogenic *Ralstonia* strain were also involved in ABA biosynthesis and signaling. These indicate ABA signaling is triggered by pathogenic and nonpathogenic invasion and may function in root defense agnist *R. solanacearum*. Very few SA-associated genes were found in our root transcriptome, which also happened in the leaf transcrptome (Hu et al., 2008). This corroborates the notion that SA does not have a key role in plant defense responses against many root pathogenic bacteria. Moreover, several genes involved in auxin signaling were down-regulated in the leaf transcriptome (Hu et al., 2008). In contrast, the auxin biosynthesis, signaling and transport pathways were significantly induced in the root transcriptome reported here. This discrepancy in the results could be partly caused by the different tissues used in the

experiment (leaf vs. root) and different inoculation methods employed (soil drench vs. *in vitro* infection).

***R. solanacearum* manipulates different plant hormonal pathways**

Plant hormones are well-known to synergistically or antagonistically affect each other's output, leading to plant resistance or susceptibility to various pathogens (Berens et al., 2017). Therefore, phytopathogens have acquired the abilities to hijack plant hormones to promote their proliferation in the host (Ma and Ma, 2016). Ethylene and Jasmonic acid signals have been shown to be the main target of many virulence factors produced by biotrophic and hemibiotrophic phytopathogen, due to their negative role in plant immunity against biotrophic pathogens via SA antagonism (Kloek et al., 2001; Berrocal-Lobo et al., 2002). Ethylene is produced by many plant pathogens including the bacterial pathogen *Pseudomonas syringae* and *R. solanacearum* (Weingart and Volksch, 1997; Valls et al., 2006). Disruption of ET production affects the virulence of *P. syringae* on soybean and bean (Weingart et al., 2001). In *R. solanacearum*, mutation of ethylene-forming enzyme (*RsEFE*) did not affect its proliferation on plant host (Valls et al., 2006). However plants defective in ethylene signaling (*ein2* mutants), show delayed wilt symptom (Hirsch et al., 2002). Our transcriptome data shows that *R. solanacearum* highly induces expression of ACS genes in the roots, which could indicate that besides directly producing ET, *R. solanacearum* employ another unknown strategy to activate endogenous ET.

The *P. syringae* virulence factors Coronatine, HopZ1a, HopX1 and AvrB, virulence factors, activate JA signaling by promoting degradation of JAZ proteins, key negative regulators in JA signaling (Melotto et al., 2006; Jiang et al., 2013; Gimenez-Ibanez et al., 2014; Zhou et al., 2015). Activation of JA signaling leads to entry of phytopathogen into apoplast by reopening closed stomata and attenuate SA-dependent plant defense (Melotto et al., 2006; Zhou et al., 2015). Hernandez-Blanco reported mutation in JA-Ile receptor gene,

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3 481 *Coronatine- insensitive 1 (COI1)*, conferred plant resistance to *R.*
4 482 *solanacearum* (Hernandez-Blanco et al., 2007). Our data showed JA
5 483 biosynthesis and degradation genes (*LOX1*, *LOX4* and *KAT5*) were
6 484 differentially-expressed at earlier RH stage and *JAZs* were mainly induced at
7 485 LR stage and 96 hpi, suggesting that JA signaling pathway was activated and
8 486 then quickly inhibited during *R. solanacearum* infection. However, the *jai3-1*,
9 487 *jar1-1*, and *dde2* mutants with disabled JA biosynthesis or signaling showed
10 488 similar root architectures as wild type plants in response to this pathogen (Lu
11 489 et al., 2018). This indicates that JA may be involved in plant defense , but not
12 490 in the root morphogenesis changes caused by *R. solanacearum*.

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14 491 Auxin signaling and transport has been reported to be manipulated by
15 492 phytopathogens to suppress activation of SA-dependent defense. The *P.*
16 493 *syringae* effector AvrRpt2 activates auxin biosynthesis and induces expression
17 494 of auxin-response genes by promoting degradation of the key negative
18 495 regulators of auxin signaling AUX/IAAs. The effector HopM1 also from *P.*
19 496 *syringae* and PSE1 from *Phytophthora parasitica* disrupt auxin transport by
20 497 affecting expression or localization of different PIN auxin transporters, which
21 498 promotes pathogen infection by antagonizing SA signaling (Nomura et al.,
22 499 2006; Chen et al., 2007; Cui et al., 2013; Evangelisti et al., 2013; Tanaka et al.,
23 500 2013). Many plant pathogens, including *R. solanacearum*, produce auxin-like
24 501 molecules, which may alter auxin homeostasis and affect auxin signaling in the
25 502 host plants (Manulis et al., 1994; Glickmann et al., 1998; Valls et al., 2006;
26 503 Robert-Seilaniantz et al., 2007). Interestingly, we observed that auxin
27 504 biosynthesis genes were activated at the RH stage by *R. solanacearum* . Auxin
28 505 signaling and transport were also upregulated at PC and LR stage. In line with
29 506 our data, The expression of *DR5*, a marker gene of auxin signaling pathway,
30 507 was strongly induced in root vascular after *R. solanacearum* GM1000
31 508 infection (Lu et al., 2018). Moreover, the *dg1-1* tomato mutant with disordered
32 509 auxin transport was found to be highly resistant to *R. solanacearum* (French et
33 510 al., 2018). Together, these data strongly supports the notion that auxin

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3 511 signaling plays a negative role in root defense against *R. solanacerum*. A
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5 512 deeper understanding of the role of auxin signaling in plant susceptibility to *R.*
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7 513 *solanacearum* awaits further investigation.

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9 514 ABA also plays an important role in attenuating plant defense, possibly by
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11 515 inhibiting SA signaling (Cao et al., 2011). Increase of ABA levels in infected
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13 516 plants will enhance plant susceptibility to the bacterial pathogen *P. syringae*,
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15 517 the fungus *Magnaporthe grisea* and the nematode *Hirschmaniella oryzae* (de
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17 518 Torres-Zabala et al., 2007; Jiang et al., 2010; Nahar et al., 2012). In turn,
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19 519 various pathogenic fungi have been shown to produce ABA (Ma and Ma, 2016)
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21 520 and the effectors AvrPtoB and HopAM1 produced by *P. syringae* enhance
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23 521 plant susceptibility to the bacterial infection by promoting ABA biosynthesis or
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25 522 affecting ABA signaling (de Torres-Zabala et al., 2007; Goel et al., 2008). ABA
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27 523 also can positively regulate plant defense to *P. syringae*. For example, ABA
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29 524 induces stomata closure and locks pathogen outside of host upon
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31 525 encountering pathogen, protecting plant from pathogen infection (Melotto et al.,
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33 526 2006). A large number of ABA-responsive genes were up-regulated in plants
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35 527 infected with the non-virulent *R. solanacerum* mutant $\Delta hrpB$ and in
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37 528 CESA4/CESA7/CESA8-mediated resistance to *R. solanacearum*
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39 529 (Hernandez-Blanco et al., 2007; Feng et al., 2012). *abi1-1* and *abi2-1*, two
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41 530 ABA-insensitive mutants, exhibited more sensitivity to *R. solanacearum* and
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43 531 disabled $\Delta hrpB$ -triggered and CESA4/CESA7/CESA8-mediated plant
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45 532 resistance (Hu et al., 2008). Here we show that ABA signaling in root is turned
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47 533 on at PC stage, much earlier than activation of ABA signaling in leaf. Further
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49 534 genetic analysis demonstrated that simultaneous disruption of ABA receptors
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51 535 (12458 and 112458) dramatically enhanced susceptibility towards *R.*
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53 536 *solanacerum*. Consistent with this result, most components of the ABA
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55 537 receptor, *PYR1*, *PYL1*, *PYL2*, *PYL4*, and *PYL8*, express in the stele of root
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57 538 (Gonzalez-Guzman et al., 2012; Antoni et al., 2013). Interestingly, although
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59 539 both ABA receptor mutants are insensitive to ABA-mediated root growth
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540 540 inhibition (Antoni et al., 2013), they are still sensitive to root hair formation, root

growth inhibition, and lateral root formation caused by *R. solanacearum*. This indicates that ABA signaling is not essential for *R. solanacearum*-triggered root architecture changes. Together, our data suggests that ABA has a positive effect on plant defense against *R. solanacearum*. However, the precise mechanism by which ABA promotes defense to this bacteria still needs to be further elucidated. Together, all these data indicates that the interplay between *R. solanacearum* and Arabidopsis is mediated by a complex interplay of hormones. In particular, a synergistic effect among JA, ET, SA, ABA, and auxin seem to determine the level of defense to *R. solanacearum* in the plant in spatiotemporal way. Our data provides new insight into the signaling network that occurs in the root host in response to a root pathogen.

***R. solanacearum* infection triggers specific defense responses in the root**

PTI and Effector-triggered immunity (ETI) are the two layers of defense that plants pose to phytopathogens (Jones and Dangl, 2006). In our RNA-seq data, we identified several components of both defense branches, which is consistent with the reports that PAMPs elicits transcriptional changes and callose deposition in Arabidopsis root and the effector RBP1 from root nematode *Globodera pallida* triggers Gpa2-dependent resistance and cell death (Sacco et al., 2009; Millet et al., 2010). LYK4, PUB22, PUB23 and, PEP1 and MPK11, components of PTI signaling are quickly induced upon infection. Interestingly, all of these PTI-related genes were inhibited at LR stage, suggesting that *R. solanacearum* infection represses PTI in the root. In addition, we also found around 19 NBS-LRR resistance genes in DEGs including ZAR1. ZAR1 detects the acetylated hopz-ETI-deficient 1 (ZED1) by the *P. syringae* effector HopZ1a and triggers ETI (Lewis et al., 2010; Lewis et al., 2013). This suggests that this NB-LRR might be involved in *R. solanacearum* effector recognition.

Accompanying with ETI, hypersensitive response (HR), a local cell death

at the attempted entry site of pathogens, often happens. Cell death was observed on root tips at PC stage after *R. solanacearum* infection. Interestingly, the occurrence of *R. solanacearum*-mediated cell death at the root tip is dependent on the presence of a functional type three secretion system (Lu et al., 2018). This could indicate that this cell death occurs via effector recognition and thus ETI would be occurring at *R. solanacearum* infecting roots. HR in leaf is thought to directly kill invaders and/or to interfere biotrophic pathogen with acquisition of nutrients (Heath, 2000). But we showed cell death in root seems not to affect the virulence of GMI1000 on Arabidopsis and we know GMI1000 is a compatible strain on Arabidopsis. Necrotrophic pathogen triggers cell death in order to obtain more nutrients that helps them accomplishing their life cycle (Glazebrook, 2005). Whether *R. solanacearum* would follow a similar strategy with the root tip or it is simply a consequence of infection needs to be answered.

Root morphogenesis changes triggered by *R. solanacearum* infection are accompanied by deep transcriptional reprogramming of genes involved in root architecture

The root is embedded in the soil and its architecture determines the efficiency for nutrient uptake and aboveground growth. Root architecture is often shaped by biotic stress and abiotic stress such as interaction with mutualist microbes and elements deficiency (Le Fevre et al., 2015). Several *R. solanacearum* strains cause root morphological changes (Lu et al., 2018), reminiscent of root morphological changes triggered by plant growth promoting bacteria/rizobacteria or fungi (PGPB/PGPR and PGPF) (Verbon and Liberman, 2016). These beneficial microbes affect cell division at the root meristem region and cell differentiation at sites of lateral root formation through manipulating endogenous hormone levels, hormone signaling such as auxin signaling and transports and metabolic processes, resulting in root structure changes (Verbon and Liberman, 2016). Our transcriptomic analysis indicated

that auxin synthesis, signaling and transport in root are all activated by *R. solanacearum* colonization. The auxin insensitive single mutant *tir1* and double mutant *tir1/afb2* were unable to form root hair in response to *R. solanacearum* infection (Lu et al., 2018). In consonance with this, IAA28 controlling the specification and identity of lateral root founder cells were upregulated in our data (De Rybel et al., 2010). This suggests that auxin signaling in relation to lateral formation might be activated in response to *R. solanacearum*. However, activation of auxin signaling enhances plant sensitivity to *P. syringae*, *Xanthomonas oryzae*, and *Magnaporthe oryzae* (Kazan and Lyons, 2014), whilst destruction of polar auxin transport in tomato tremendously elevated plant resistance towards *R. solanacearum* infection. This poses the question of whether the observed *R. solanacearum*-triggered architecture changes are side effects of elevated auxin levels caused by *R. solanacearum* to accomplish successful colonization or not. In addition, it is still not clear why *R. solanacearum* and PGPRs induce similar root architectures but exert two opposite influences on plant survival and what benefits does *R. solanacearum* obtain (if any) from altering root structure.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Plants Materials

In this study, *Arabidopsis thaliana* Col-0 and the ABA receptor mutants 12458 and 112458 were sown in soil and grown in the chamber at 23 °C, short day conditions(8h light, light intensity 12000 lux) and 70% humidity. For *Arabidopsis* seedling growth, Col-0 seeds were sterilized with 30% bleach and 0.02% TritonX-100, then sown on Murashige Skoog without sucrose (MS-) plate and grown with the plates set vertically at 25 °C and long day conditions (16h light, light intensity 9000 lux for 6-7 days).

***R. solanacearum* Infection.**

The strain *R. solanacearum* GMI1000 was used to infection in this study. For soil drench infection assay, 5-week old plants were watered with a suspension

of 1×10^8 colony forming units (cfu). One hour later, roots of the infected plants were wounded three times with a blade, then grown into the chamber at 25 °C, 16h light. Leaf wilting symptoms and the number of dead plants were recorded over time. For *in vitro* infection we used the method previously described in Lu et al (Lu et al., 2018). Briefly, 6-7 day-old Arabidopsis seedlings grown on MS plates were inoculated 1cm away from root tip with a droplet of a solution containing 1×10^7 cfu of *R. solanacearum* GMI1000, then kept into the growth chamber as detailed above. Root structures were photographed at indicated time points with an Olympus SZX16 microscopy and lateral roots were counted at the indicated times. For the cell death assay, seedlings were immersed into 0.1mg/ml propidium iodide solution and observed under an Olympus confocal microscope IX83-FV1200.

Sample Preparations for RNA-seq

The root samples were collected from around 600 infected seedlings at the indicated time point and frozen in liquid nitrogen, then directly sent to Novogene Company (Beijing, China) which performed RNA seq and data analysis (Supplemental method)

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION LEGENDS

Figure S1. GMI1000 promotes lateral root formation. 7-day-old Arabidopsis seedling roots were inoculated with GMI1000 suspension or water. Lateral roots were counted and recorded at 5 dpi.

Figure S2. Selected GO term overrepresented in differentially expressed genes at different infection stages of GMI1000. GO terms in upper boxes indicate up-regulated genes and GO terms in lower boxes indicate down-regulated genes.

Figure S3. Biosynthesis and signaling components of ET and JA during the early stages of GMI1000 infection. (A) Heat map representation of differentially expressed genes in ET biosynthesis and signaling pathways. (B) Heat map representation of differentially expressed genes involved in JA biosynthesis and signaling pathways. The heat map depicts FPKM values after log₁₀ transformation.

Figure S4. Activation of auxin pathway in response to GMI1000 infection. Heat map values represent log₁₀-transformed FPKM values.

Figure S5. Transcriptional changes of part of differentially expressed genes involved in plant immunity. Heat map values represent log₁₀-transformed FPKM values.

Table S1. Overview of quality of RNA-seq data.

Data S1. FPKM values of 2698 differentially expressed genes in root at each time points after GMI1000 treatment

Data S2. Membership of 11 gene clusters.

Data S3. Summary of all of differentially expressed genes which play key roles

in plant immunity.

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FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure 1. Time series of root structure after GMI1000 infection. (A) Root growth was recorded and digital images were taken at indicated time points. The arrow indicates lateral roots. Dashed line indicates root growth arrest. (B) Root hair images were taken with an OLYMPUS SZX16 microscope at the indicated time points. (C) Cell death on the root tip was stained with a PI solution and images were directly taken with an Olympus confocal microscope.

Figure 2. Clustering analysis of RNAseq data. The heat map represents the expression patterns of 2698 DEGs identified in our RNA-seq data. The vertical axis organizes genes according to co-expression patterns. The horizontal axis displays time points. Red represents genes with high expression while blue represents genes with low expression. The selected overrepresented GO terms in each cluster were shown on the left. The heat map depicts FPKM value after \log_{10} transformation. .

Figure 3. Expression patterns of part of genes related with auxin biosynthesis, signaling and transport. (A) Auxin biosynthesis processes and metabolic processes. Differentially expressed enzymes in our RNA-seq data are shown in black bold, otherwise enzymes are shown in gray bold. (B) Expression patterns of differentially expressed auxin biosynthetic genes in response to GMI1000 infection. (C) Expression patterns of differentially expressed auxin signaling components in response to GMI1000. (D) Expression patterns of differentially expressed auxin transport in response to GMI1000. The heat map depicts FPKM values after \log_{10} transformation.

Figure 4. ABA receptor mutants *12458* and *112458* showed more sensitivity to GMI1000. (A) Temporal dynamics of ABA signal components after GMI1000 treatment. Heat map depicts the expression patterns of differentially expressed ABA-responsive genes. (B) Wilt symptoms were digitally imaged at 15 dpi. (C) Mortality rate of the infected plants was recorded at indicated times. **

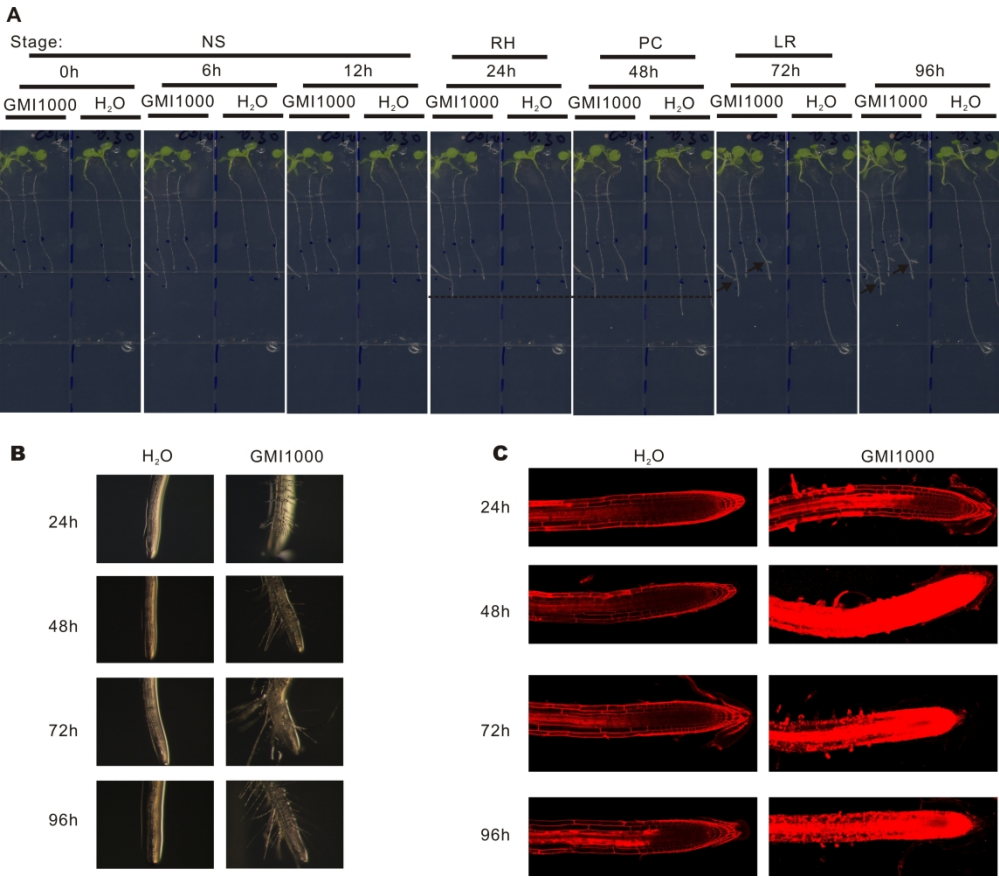
987 indicates $P < 0.001$ (Student's test) with respect to Col-0.

988 **Figure 5.** Mutations in ABA receptors did not abolish root architecture changes
989 caused by GMI1000. (A) Inhibition of *112458* root growth. Primary root
990 elongation length after infection was measured at 4 dpi. (B) Root hair formation
991 on *112458* root tips. The images were taken with Olympus microscope. (C)
992 Lateral roots on *112458* root. Lateral roots per seedling were counted and
993 recorded at 4 dpi

994 **Figure 6.** Expression dynamics of components of programmed cell death over
995 the infection time. (A) Heat map depicting differentially expressed genes in
996 effector –triggered hypersensitive responses. (B) Heat map representation of
997 differentially expressed components of senescence. Heat map values
998 represent \log_{10} -transformed FPKM values.

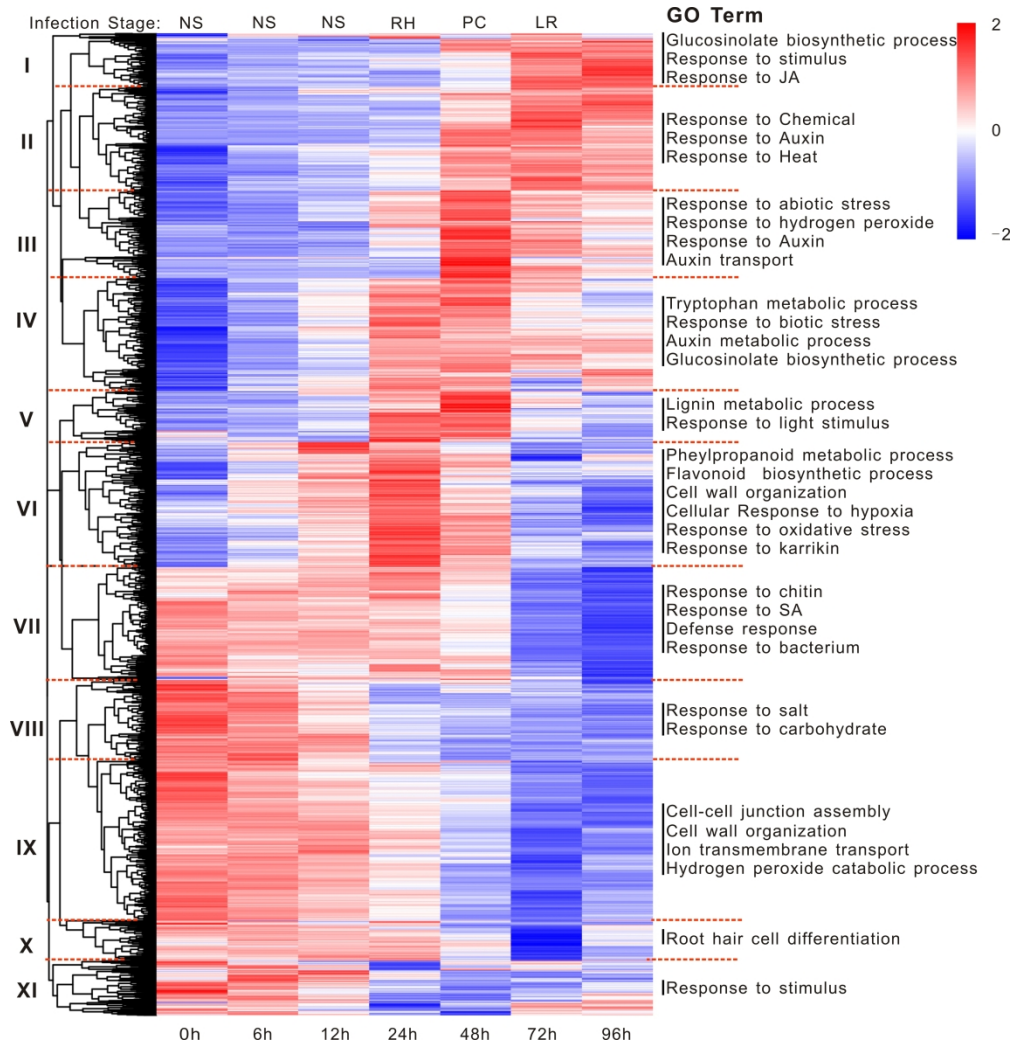
999 **Figure 7.** Expression of genes regulating root hair formation correlated with
1000 root hair formation. (A) Heat map representation of differentially expressed
1001 genes in root hair formation after GMI1000 infection. Heat map values
1002 represent \log_{10} -transformed FPKM values. (B) Root hair appeared at 18h after
1003 GMI1000 infection. The pictures were taken with an Olympus microscope at
1004 the indicated time after infection.

1005 **Figure 8.** Transcriptional dynamic changes of differentially expressed genes in
1006 root architecture. Heat map values represent \log_{10} -transformed FPKM values.



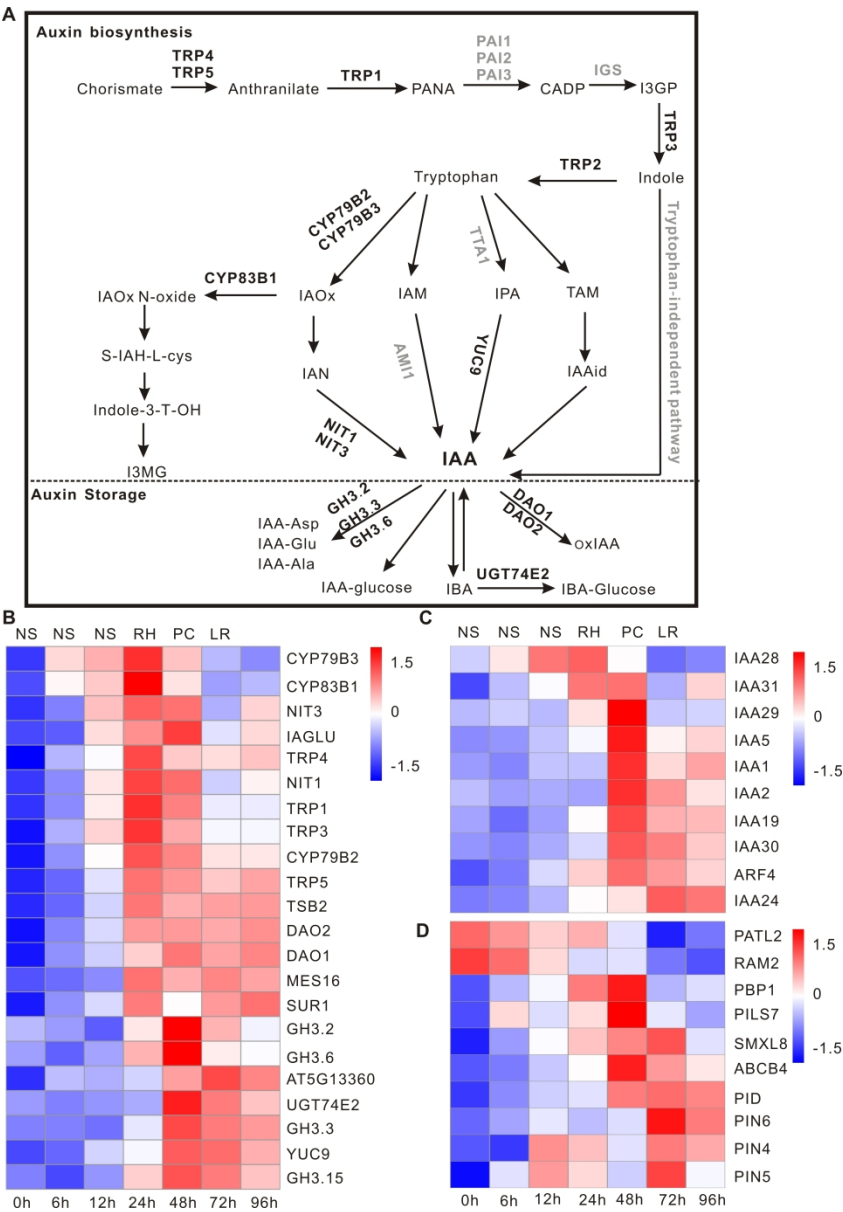
Time series of root structure after GMI1000 infection

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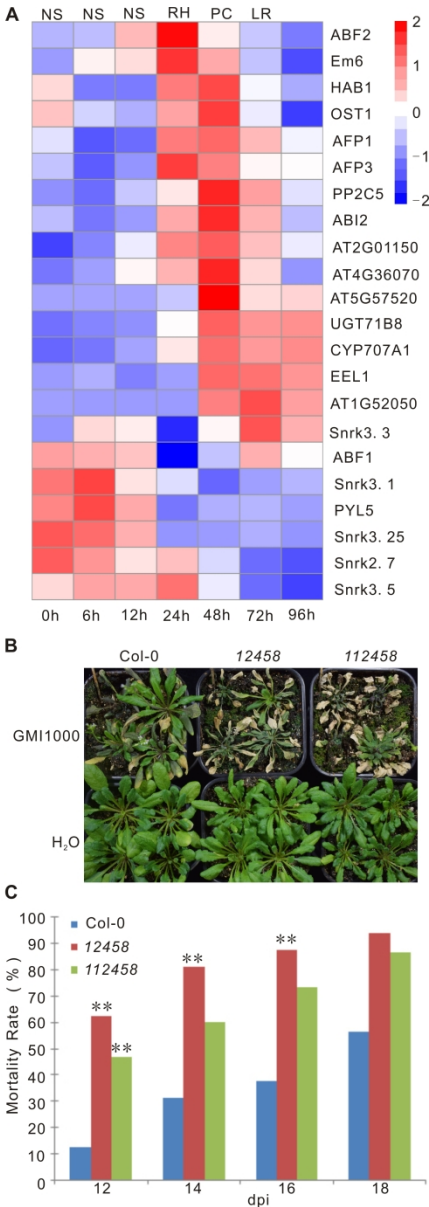
Clustering analysis of RNAseq data

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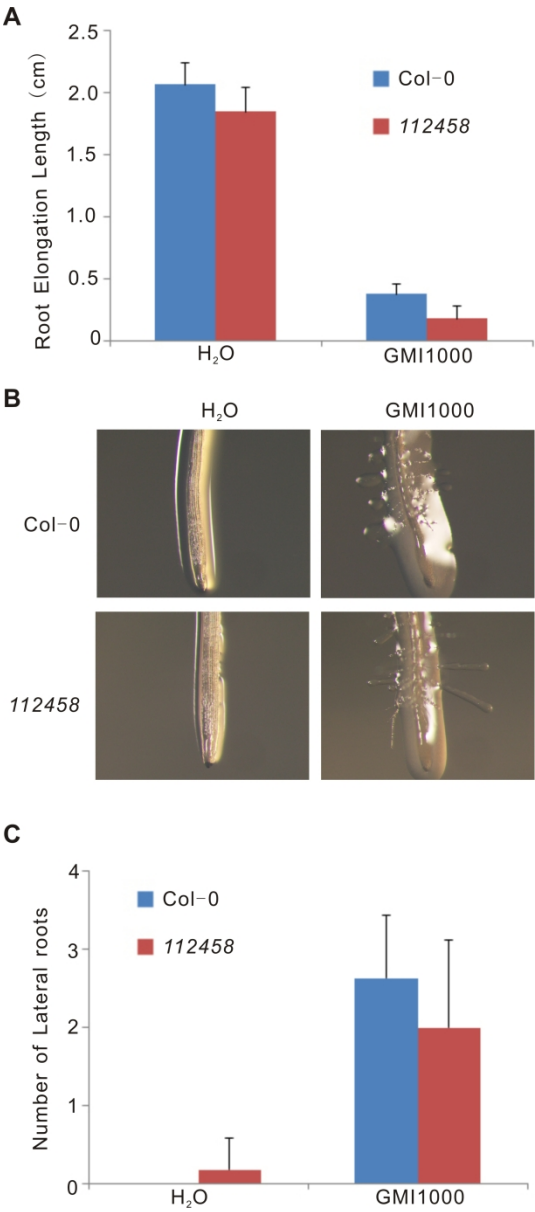
Expression patterns of part of genes related with auxin biosynthesis, signaling and transport

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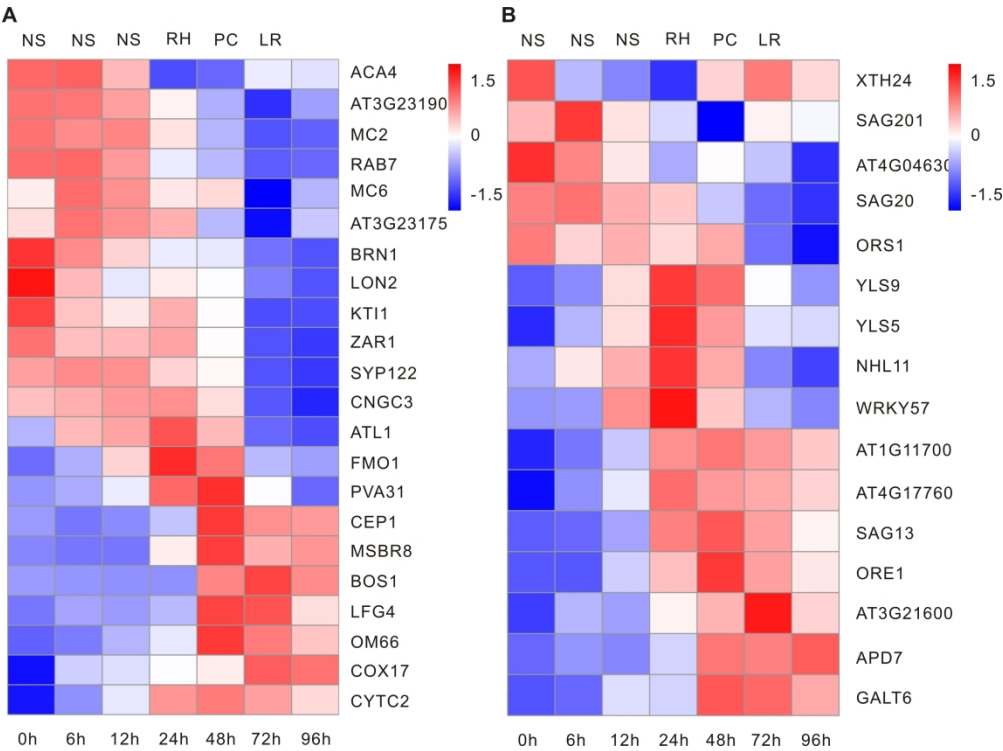
ABA receptor mutants 12458 and 112458 showed more sensitivity to GMI1000

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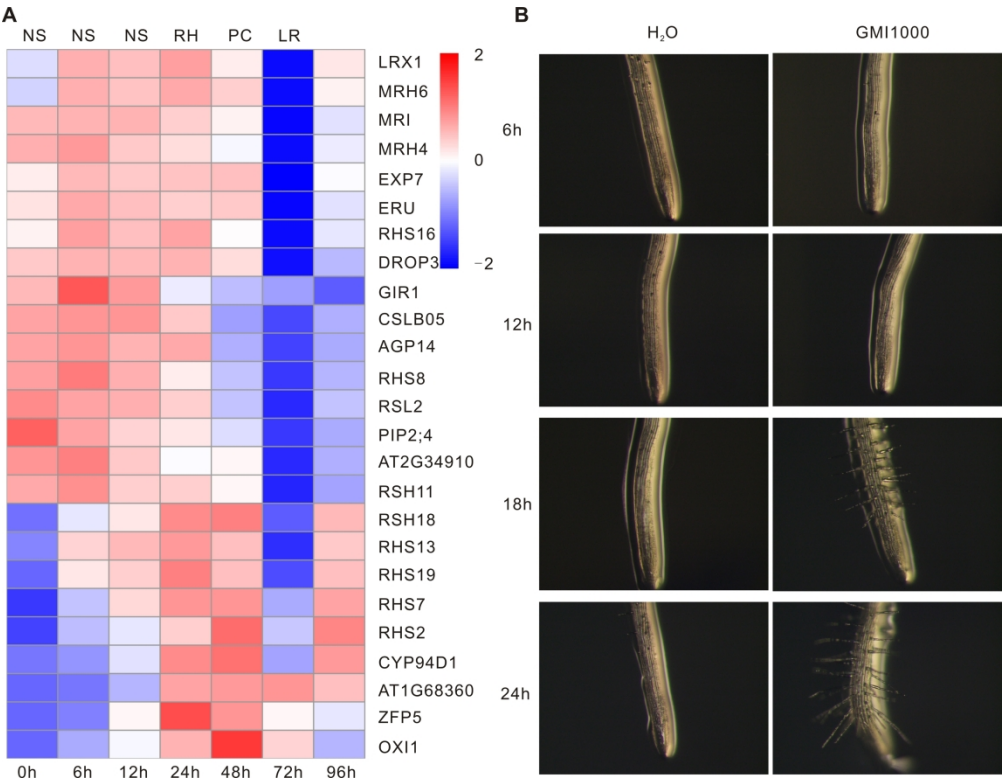
Mutations in ABA receptors did not abolish root architecture changes caused by GMI1000

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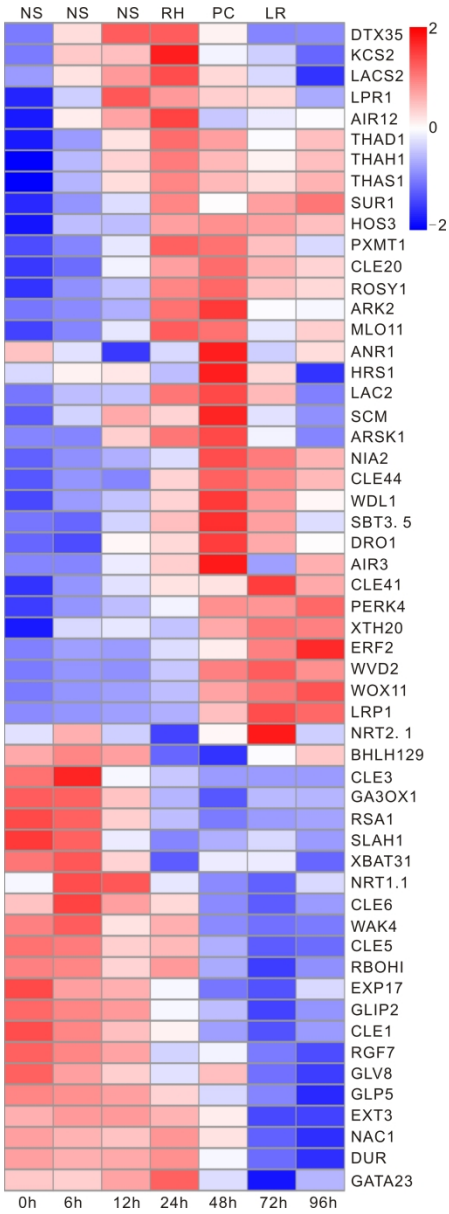
Expression dynamics of components of programmed cell death over the infection time

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Expression of genes regulating root hair formation correlated with root hair formation

130x100mm (600 x 600 DPI)



Transcriptional dynamic changes of differentially expressed genes in root architecture

216x586mm (600 x 600 DPI)

SUPPLEMENTAL DATA

Deep sequencing reveals that early reprogramming of
Arabidopsis root transcriptomes upon *Ralstonia*
solanacearum infection

Overview

Supplemental Methods

Supplemental References

Supplemental Tables: Table S1

Supplemental Methods

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Sample Preparations for RNA-seq

The root samples were collected from around 600 infected seedlings at the indicated time point and frozen in liquid nitrogen, then directly sent to Novogene Company (Beijing, China) and perform RNA seq and data analysis there.

RNA Extraction, Library Preparation and Sequencing (Novogene)

RNA were extracted using Trizol. After RNA extraction, RNA quality and quantity were assessed with following equipments: Nano Photometer spectrophotometer (IMPLEN,CA, USA) for RNA purity, Qubit®RNA Assay Kit in Qubit® 2.0 Fluorometer (Life Technologies, CA, USA) for RNA concentration, RNA Nano 6000 Assay Kit of the Bioanalyzer 2100 system (Agilent Technologies, CA, USA) for RNA integrity.

A total amount of 3 µg RNA per sample was used as input material for the RNA sample preparations. Sequencing libraries were generated using NEBNext® Ultra™ RNA Library Prep Kit for Illumina® (NEB, USA) following manufacturer's recommendations and index codes were added to attribute sequences to each sample. Briefly, mRNA was purified from total RNA using poly-T oligo-attached magnetic beads. Fragmentation was carried out using divalent cations under elevated temperature in NEB Next First Strand Synthesis Reaction Buffer (5X). First strand cDNA was synthesized using random hexamer primer and M-MuLV Reverse Transcriptase (RNaseH). Second strand cDNA synthesis was subsequently performed using DNA Polymerase I and RNase H. Remaining overhangs were converted into blunt ends via exonuclease/polymerase activities. After adenylation of 3' ends of DNA fragments, NEB Next Adaptor with hairpin loop structure were ligated to prepare for hybridization. In order to select cDNA fragments of preferentially 150~200 bp in length, the library fragments were purified with AMPure XP system (Beckman Coulter, Beverly, USA). Then 3 µl USER Enzyme (NEB, USA) was used with size-selected, adaptor-ligated cDNA at 37°C for 15 min followed by 5 min at 95 °C before PCR. Then PCR was performed with

Phusion High-Fidelity DNA polymerase, Universal PCR primers and Index (X) Primer. At last, PCR products were purified (AMPure XP system) and library quality was assessed on the Agilent Bioanalyzer 2100 system

The clustering of the index-coded samples was performed on a cBot Cluster Generation System using TruSeq PE Cluster Kit v3-cBot-HS (Illumina) according to the manufacturer's instructions. After cluster generation, the library preparations were sequenced on an Illumina HiSeq platform and 125bp/150 bp paired-end reads were generated.

Data Analysis: Quality Control, Reads Mapping to Genome, Quantification of Gene Expression level and Differential Expression Analysis (Novogene)

Raw data (raw reads) of fastq format were firstly processed through in-house perl scripts. In this step, clean data (clean reads) were obtained by removing reads containing adapter, reads containing poly-N and low quality reads from raw data. At the same time, Q20, Q30 and GC content of the clean data were calculated. All the downstream analyses were based on the clean data with high quality.

Arabidopsis genome and gene model annotation files were downloaded from Ensemble database Version 34 directly. Index of the reference genome was built using Hisat2 v2.0.4 and paired-end clean reads were aligned to the reference genome using Hisat2 v2.0.4 (Kim et al., 2015). We selected Hisat2 as the mapping tool for that Hisat2 can generate a database of splice junctions based on the gene model annotation file and thus a better mapping result than other non-splice mapping tools.

HTSeq v0.6.1 was used to count the reads numbers mapped to each gene (Anders et al., 2015). And then FPKM of each gene was calculated based on the length of the gene and reads count mapped to this gene. FPKM, expected number of Fragments Per Kilobase of transcript sequence per Millions base pairs sequenced, considers the effect of sequencing depth and gene length for

the reads count at the same time, and is currently the most commonly used method for estimating gene expression levels (Trapnell et al., 2010). Differential expression analysis of two conditions/groups (two biological replicates per condition) was performed using the DESeq R package (1.18.0) (Anders and Huber 2012). DESeq provide statistical routines for determining differential expression in digital gene expression data using a model based on the negative binomial distribution (Anders and Huber, 2010). The resulting P-values were adjusted using the Benjamini and Hochberg's approach for controlling the false discovery rate. Genes with an adjusted P-value <0.05 found by DESeq and fold change ($-1 > \log_2 > 1$) were assigned as differentially expressed.

Clustering of Gene Expression Profiles (Novogene)

Cluster analysis is used to determine the expression patterns of differential genes under different experimental conditions. Heatmap represents the expressions of all differentially expressed genes identified in the RNA-seq experiment. The FPKM value of differential genes under different experimental conditions was used as the expression level, and hierarchical clustering analysis was performed. Different colored regions represent different clustering grouping information. The X-axis represents sample name and the Y-axis represents the differentially expressed genes. Expression data was normalized in log10 (FPKM+1) manner, heatmaps were drawn by R pheatmap package (Kolde, 2018).

GO Analysis

GO annotation analysis was performed using the Agrigo v2.0 (Tian *et al.*, 2017). Overrepresented GO_Biological_Process categories were identified using a hypergeometric test with FDR<0.05 with the whole annotated genome as the reference test.

Supplemental References

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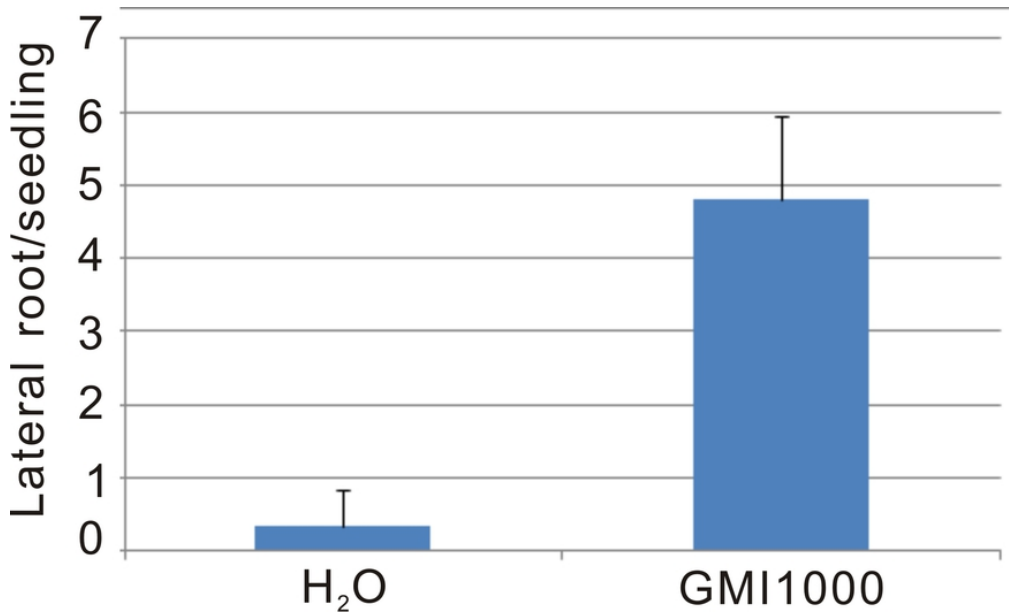
Trapnell, C., Williams, B.A., Pertea, G., Mortazavi, A., Kwan, G., van Baren, M.J., Salzberg, S.L., Wold, B.J. and Pachter, L. (2010) Transcript assembly and quantification by RNA-Seq reveals unannotated transcripts and isoform switching during cell differentiation. *Nature biotechnology*, **28**, 511-515.

Supplemental Tables

Supplemental Table S1. Overview of quality of RNA-seq data.

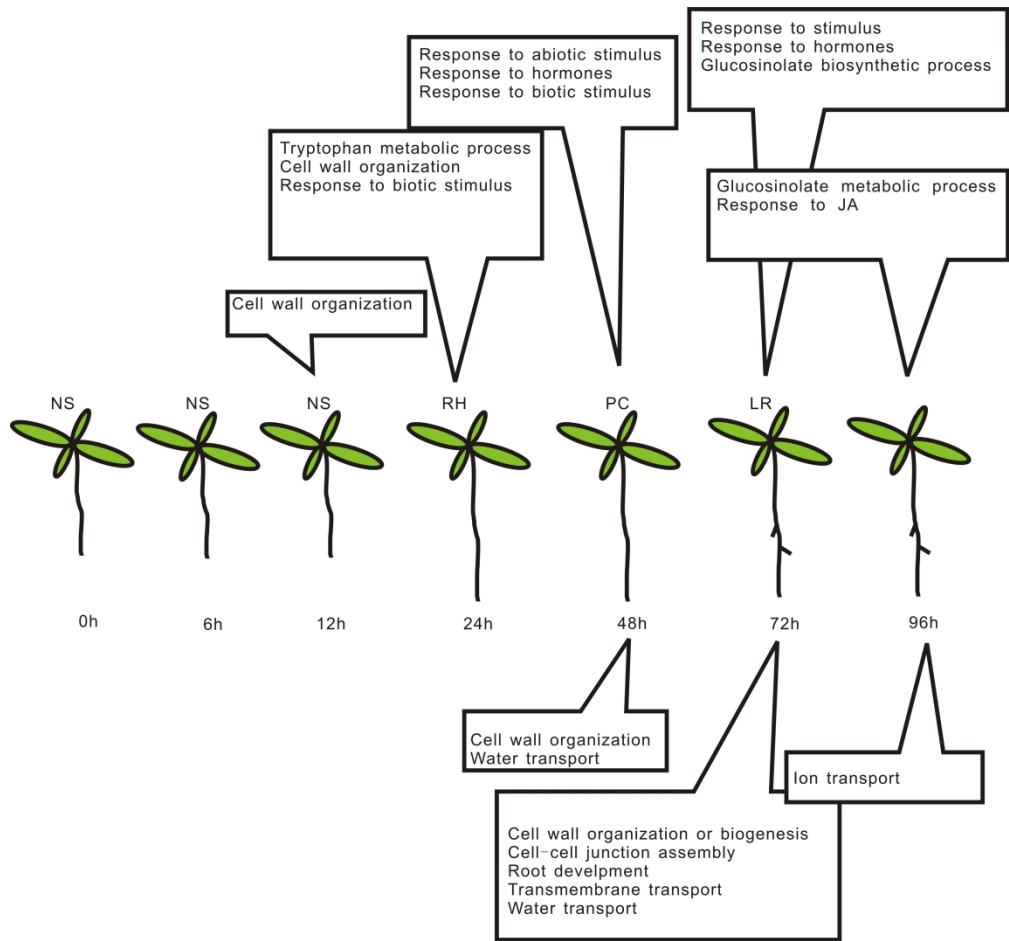
Sample name	Raw reads	Clean reads	Clean bases (Gb)	Mapped reads (% of total)	Q30(%)
G0	34305303	33278781	4.99	31560849 (94.86%)	91.37
G6	36097955	34998502	5.25	33069200 (94.50%)	92.30
G12	39001013	37994586	5.70	36226397 (95.38%)	91.40
G24	34175878	33150365	4.97	31537042 (95.16%)	91.74
G48	33370411	32175593	4.82	30628497 (95.19%)	91.78
G72	32732665	31887137	4.78	30067895 (94.51%)	91.44
G96	35598467	34544686	5.18	32460784 (94.07%)	92.06
H96	35542801	34630479	5.19	32848338 (94.89%)	91.74

For Peer Review



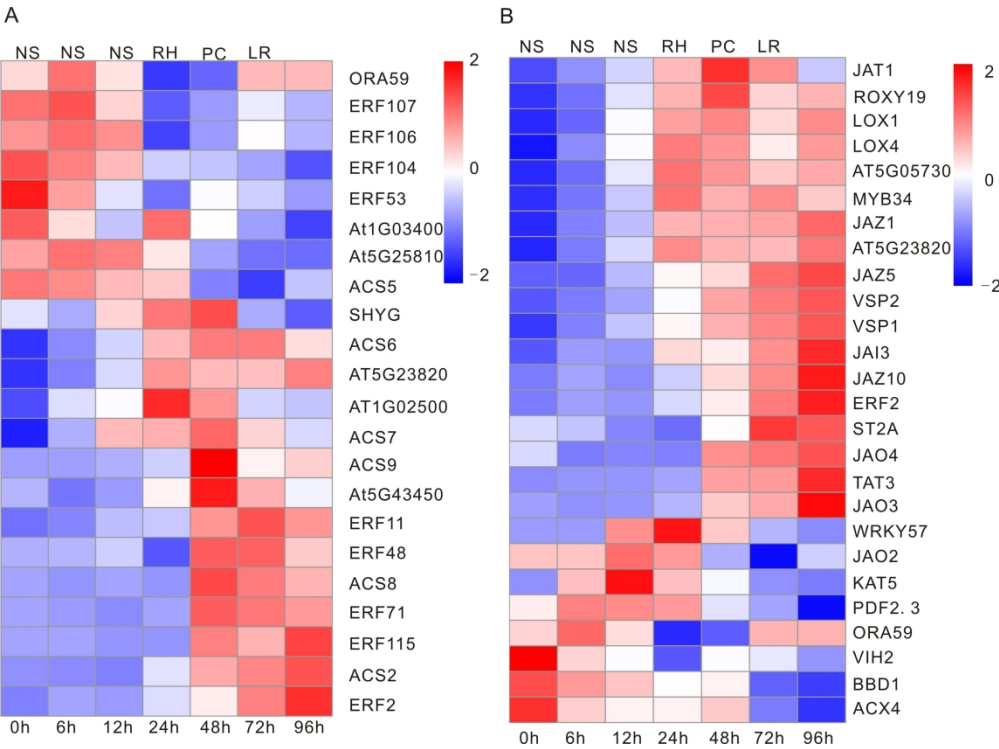
GMI1000 promotes lateral root formation

36x22mm (600 x 600 DPI)



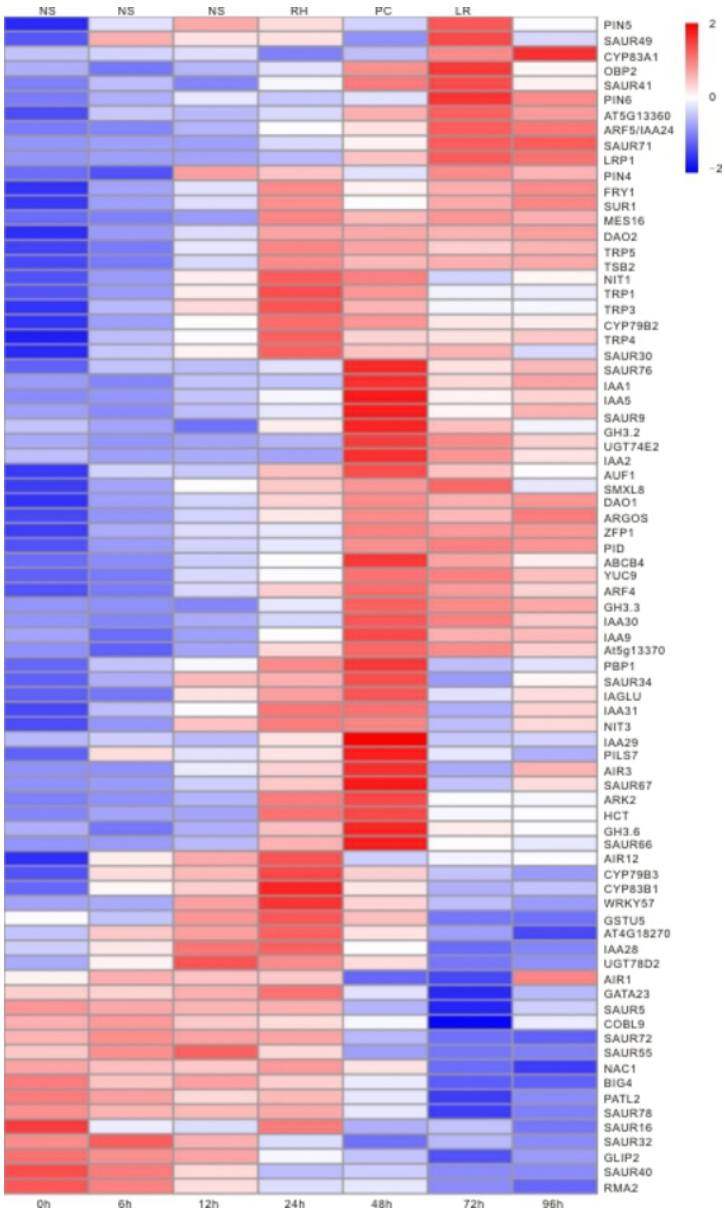
Selected GO term overrepresented in differentially expressed genes at different infection stages of GMI1000

158x147mm (600 x 600 DPI)



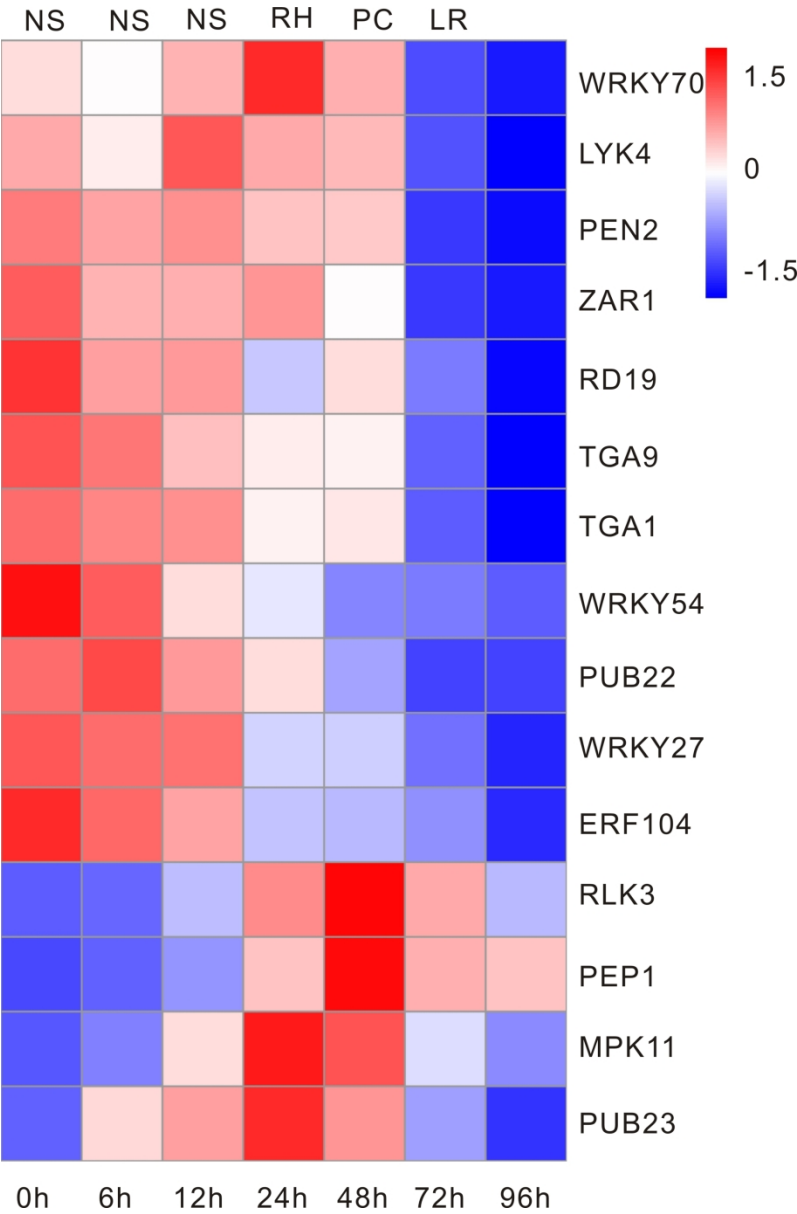
Selected GO term overrepresented in differentially expressed genes at different infection stages of GMI1000

121x89mm (600 x 600 DPI)



Activation of auxin pathway in response to GMI1000 infection

23x40mm (600 x 600 DPI)



Transcriptional changes of part of differentially expressed genes involved in plant immunity.

117x177mm (600 x 600 DPI)