



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

This is a repository copy of *A ligand-independent origin of abscisic acid perception*.

White Rose Research Online URL for this paper:
<http://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/152957/>

Version: Accepted Version

Article:

Sun, Y, Harpazi, B, Wijerathna-Yapa, A et al. (7 more authors) (2019) A ligand-independent origin of abscisic acid perception. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*, 116 (49). pp. 24892-24899. ISSN 0027-8424

<https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1914480116>

© 2019 Published under the PNAS license. This is an author produced version of a paper published in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*. Uploaded in accordance with the publisher's self-archiving policy.

Reuse

Items deposited in White Rose Research Online are protected by copyright, with all rights reserved unless indicated otherwise. They may be downloaded and/or printed for private study, or other acts as permitted by national copyright laws. The publisher or other rights holders may allow further reproduction and re-use of the full text version. This is indicated by the licence information on the White Rose Research Online record for the item.

Takedown

If you consider content in White Rose Research Online to be in breach of UK law, please notify us by emailing eprints@whiterose.ac.uk including the URL of the record and the reason for the withdrawal request.

1 BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES: Plant Biology

2

3 **A ligand-independent origin of abscisic acid perception**

4 Yufei Sun¹, Ben Harpazi¹, Akila Wijerathna-Yapa¹, Ebe Merilo², Jan de Vries^{3,4}, Daphna
5 Michaeli¹, Maayan Gal⁵, Andrew Cuming⁶, Hannes Kollist², Assaf Mosquna^{1*}

6

7 ¹The Robert H. Smith Institute of Plant Sciences and Genetics in Agriculture, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem,
8 Rehovot, Israel.

9 ²Plant Signal Research Group, Institute of Technology, University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia.

10 ³Institute of Microbiology, Technische Universität Braunschweig, Braunschweig, Germany.

11 ⁴Institute of Microbiology and Genetics, Georg-August-University Göttingen, Goldschmidtstr. 1, 37077 Göttingen, Germany

12 ⁵Department of Oral Biology, The Maurice and Gabriela Goldschleger School of Dental Medicine, Sackler Faculty of
13 Medicine, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Isreal.

14 ⁶Centre for Plant Sciences, Faculty of Biological Sciences, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK.

15 *To whom correspondence may be addressed. Email: assaf.mosquna@mail.huji.ac.il

16

17

1 **Abstract**

2 Land plants are considered monophyletic, descending from a single successful colonization of land
3 by an aquatic algal ancestor. Ability to survive dehydration to the point of desiccation is a key
4 adaptive trait enabling terrestrialization. In extant land plants, desiccation tolerance depends on the
5 action of the hormone abscisic acid (ABA) that acts through a receptor-signal transduction pathway
6 comprising a PYRABACTIN RESISTANCE 1-like (PYL) - PROTEIN PHOSPHATASE 2C (PP2C) -
7 SNF1-RELATED PROTEIN KINASE 2 (SnRK2) module. Early-diverging aeroterrestrial algae mount
8 a dehydration response that is similar to that of land plants but that does not depend on ABA:
9 although ABA synthesis is widespread among algal species, ABA-dependent responses are not
10 detected, and algae lack an ABA-binding PYL homologue. This raises the key question of how ABA
11 signalling arose in the earliest land plants. Here, we systematically characterized ABA receptor-like
12 proteins from major land plant lineages, including a protein found in the algal sister lineage of land
13 plants. We found that the algal PYL-homologue encoded by *Zygnema circumcarinatum* has basal,
14 ligand-independent activity of PP2C repression, suggesting this to be an ancestral function.
15 Similarly, a liverwort receptor possesses basal activity but it is further activated by ABA. We propose
16 that co-option of ABA to control a preexisting PP2C-SnRK2-dependent desiccation-tolerance
17 pathway enabled transition from an “all-or-nothing” survival strategy to a hormone-modulated,
18 competitive strategy by enabling continued growth of anatomically diversifying vascular plants in
19 dehydative conditions, enabling them to exploit their new environment more efficiently.

20 **Key words**

21 PYL, basal activity, plant evolution, *Zygnema*

22 **Significance Statement**

23 Synthesis of ABA and proteins required for its downstream signalling are ancient, and found in
24 aquatic algae, but these primitive plants do not respond to ABA, and lack ABA receptors. The
25 present work traces the evolution of ABA as an allosteric regulatory switch. We found that ancient
26 PYLs homologs proteins have constitutive ABA-independent phosphatase-binding activity that, in
27 land plants, has gradually evolved into ABA-activated receptor. We propose that ABA-mediated fine-
28 tuning of the preexisting signalling cascade was a key evolutionary novelty that aided these plants in
29 their conquest of land.

1 **Introduction**

2 ABA is best known for its function as a stress-related metabolite and is ubiquitous
3 throughout the plant kingdom (1, 2). ABA is perceived by the START domain PYRABACTIN
4 RESISTANCE 1/ PYR1-LIKE/ REGULATORY COMPONENTS OF ABA RECEPTOR
5 (PYR/PYL/RCAR) that interacts with members of the clade A (PP2C) protein phosphatase
6 family (3-5). PYL binding to ABA promotes formation of a receptor-ABA-PP2C ternary
7 complex that suppresses the dephosphorylation activity of PP2Cs (6-9). This releases
8 SNF1-RELATED PROTEIN KINASE 2s (SnRK2s) from an otherwise inhibitory complex with
9 PP2Cs, initiating phosphorylation of transcription factors and ion channels (10, 11). The
10 involvement of SnRK2-mediated phosphorylation in abiotic stress has been described in
11 green algae, bryophytes and angiosperms, and modulation of SnRK2 activity by PP2Cs is
12 highly conserved (12-15).

13 Based on data from *Arabidopsis*, ABA receptors have been divided into three
14 subfamilies, I, II and III (4). Subfamilies I and II receptors are monomeric, while subfamily III
15 receptors are dimeric and exclusive to the more recently diverged angiosperms (16). The
16 appearance of dimeric receptors represents a dramatic evolutionary change in the
17 perception of ABA. These subfamily III receptors require ABA for dimer dissociation, which
18 results in low basal receptor activity in the absence of ABA (17). *In planta*, this results in a
19 steep threshold between stress-sensitized versus relaxed physiology. Based on the
20 evolutionary changes in the ABA perception apparatus from bryophytes to angiosperms,
21 and on the fact that the ABA molecule preceded the emergence of ABA receptors (2, 18),
22 we reasoned that investigating the evolution of PYL function could illuminate how ABA
23 evolved as a hormone modulating plant stress responses during the emergence of land
24 plants.

25

26 **Results and discussion**

27 Algal ABA biology presents a dilemma: The presence of ABA has been confirmed in many
28 species, however, algal genomes largely do not encode PYR/L ABA receptors. Recently,
29 the *Zygnema circumcarinatum* alga was shown to express a transcript encoding a protein
30 apparently orthologous to PYR/Ls, designated as ZcPYL8 (19). To verify that ZcPYL8 is not
31 an outlier of this species, we mined transcriptome resources and identified ten more
32 transcripts with homology to PYR/Ls in four genera: *Zygnema*, *Zygnemopsis*, *Spirogyra*,
33 and *Mesotaenium* (SI Appendix, Fig. S1a and S2). The sequence analysis pointed to
34 several amino acid differences in the otherwise conserved, key ABA-binding residues

1 identified in *bona fide* land plant ABA receptors (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S1a). To test whether
2 ZcPYL8 functions as an ABA receptor, we performed yeast two-hybrid and *in vitro*
3 phosphatase inhibition assays with clade A PP2Cs. The ZcPYL8 protein interacted and
4 inhibited both native and *Arabidopsis* PP2Cs—but in an ABA-independent manner (Fig. 1a,
5 *SI Appendix*, Fig. S3 and S4a); notably, PP2C activity was reduced in a PYL concentration-
6 dependent manner (Fig. 1a). This contrasted with land plant ABA receptors in which the
7 ABA-triggered allosteric binding to PP2C and the inhibition of phosphatase activity were
8 evident. To find out if ZcPYL8 is sufficient for enhanced ABA signaling *in planta*, we
9 expressed the latter in the *Arabidopsis aba2-1* ABA-deficient mutant background. We
10 reasoned that under controlled growth conditions and in the absence of ABA, stress-
11 signaling would principally be governed by the basal receptor activity. We monitored the
12 phenotype of the transformed lines by means of fresh weight accumulation and canopy
13 temperature. Expression of ZcPYL8 partially rescued the mutant phenotype, exemplifying
14 the basal activity of the algal PYL (Fig. 2a, b and *SI Appendix*, Fig. S5). Moreover,
15 application of ABA did not result in an enhanced response compared to the response
16 registered in *aba2-1* (Fig. 2c). On the contrary, expression of ABA responsive MpPYL1
17 enhanced ABA response in comparison to *aba2-1* (Fig. 2c) (20), suggesting that ZcPYL8
18 activates ABA signaling *in planta* in an ABA-independent fashion. An isothermal titration
19 calorimetry assay, performed to determine whether ZcPYL8 can bind ABA, showed no
20 thermal signature, whereas titration of liverwort MpPYL1 or *Arabidopsis* PYL10 with ABA
21 resulted in an exothermic reaction (Fig. 2d and *SI Appendix*, Fig. S6), suggesting that
22 ZcPYL8 is exceptionally not regulated by ABA. By mutating the obvious residues that differ
23 between land plants and algae, we could not enhance ABA-induced ZcPYL8-PP2C
24 interaction (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S7). However, it was evident that mutating ABA binding
25 residues which do not take part in PP2C interaction seemingly did not hamper the receptor
26 activity. This speaks to a pronounced flexibility in the ligand binding pocket; this flexibility
27 has important implications for the evolution of ABA as the input signal that triggers the entire
28 downstream cascade. Due to the lack of amino acid conservation in the specific ABA
29 binding residues within the Zygnematophycean PYL clade (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S1b; i.e.
30 PYR1 K59), we postulate that this ABA-independent activity presumably unique to ZcPYL8,
31 might in fact attest a general ancestral feature of the algal PYLs. Furthermore, these results
32 suggest that the inhibition of PP2C phosphatases is an ancestral function of PYR/L proteins
33 that evolved as an ABA-independent process, before the origin of land plants. The question
34 of the regulation of algal PYLs still remains open. Analysis of the published differential

transcriptomic data on *Zygnema circumcarinatum* strain SAG 2419 challenged with extreme dehydration/desiccation stress (21) showed a modest two-fold average upregulation of *ZcPYL8* transcript (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S8). As already noted by Rippin et al. (21), transcriptional regulation of core ABA signaling components is likely not the main route to initiate alga's signaling cascade (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S8). Possibly regulation can occur at protein level as suggested in Irigoyen et al. (22) or by activity modulation by different ligand.

In pursuit of traces of this ancestral ABA-independent PYL-PP2C activity in extant land plants, we analysed basal ABA-independent phosphatase inhibitory activity of PYR/L proteins across diverse land plant lineages, ranging from bryophytes to angiosperms. We tested the *Marchantia* receptor, alongside three *Physcomitrella*, five *Selaginella* and eleven *Arabidopsis* receptors. Yeast two-hybrid and phosphatase inhibition assays confirmed that land plant PYLs function as ABA receptors, as manifested by their ABA-mediated interaction with clade A PP2Cs and inhibition of PP2C activity (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S3 and S4b-e). Next, we tested the basal activity of the aforementioned PYLs using recombinant proteins for ABA-free receptor-PP2C inhibition assays (Fig. 1b-e). To further normalize PP2C activity, receptors were also tested with the *Arabidopsis* phosphatase HAB1 (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S9). For the latter, receptors were assayed in the minimal concentration needed to obtain maximal HAB1 inhibition when saturated with ABA. The *Marchantia* receptor showed 30-50% basal activity when analyzed with the native PP2C or with the standardized HAB1 (Fig. 1b and *SI Appendix*, Fig. S9). *Physcomitrella* PYLs demonstrated both ABA-induced activity and basal activity (PpPYL1, 20%; PpPYL3, 15%; Fig. 1c and *SI Appendix*, Fig. S9). Three out of the four active *Selaginella* receptors had measurable basal activity, while SmPYL2 was fully ligand-dependent (Fig. 1d and *SI Appendix*, Fig. S9). In *Arabidopsis*, the monomeric receptors included receptors exhibiting a range of basal activities, whereas subfamily III dimeric receptors had no basal activity (Fig. 1e and *SI Appendix*, Fig. S9). A decline in basal ABA receptor activity may have broadened the dynamic range of the stress response, enabling fine-tuning of the response. The predominant role of the angiosperm-exclusive dimeric receptors (with the lowest basal activity) in the collective ABA response would therefore be a manifestation of the highest level of response range, while the contrary is the case for the single *Marchantia* receptor, that seemingly provides a narrow ABA response range (50% basal activity) (Fig. 1 insertion).

While receptors displaying high basal activity might obscure ABA-mediated fine-tuning processes, *Arabidopsis*, *Striga*, *Solanum*, *Oryza* and *Triticum* still maintain both receptors

1 with a narrower response range alongside receptors that allow a broader range of response
2 ([23-27](#)). *Arabidopsis* PYL10 stands out as an example of a receptor with high basal activity,
3 as its regulation by ABA affects less than 50% of the response magnitude (Fig. 1e).
4 However, we found that *PYL10* expression is undetected in available transcriptome
5 datasets, suggesting that if it is expressed during the plant life cycle, it is either at a very low
6 level or developmentally restricted in some way. Similarly, *Triticum* TaPYL5 showed high
7 basal activity in phosphatase inhibition assays, signifying that it is an ABA receptor with a
8 narrow response range, whose expression is also very restricted during the lifecycle of
9 wheat ([27](#)). We therefore investigated the promoter specificity of *Arabidopsis* *PYL10*, using
10 a 2078 bp upstream promoter sequence (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S10a) driving a VENUS reporter
11 construct. We observed high expression and protein accumulation in leaves (*SI Appendix*,
12 Fig. S10b), implying that the promoter sequence did not dictate a limited transcription
13 pattern for *PYL10*. However, the 3' end of the *PYL10* gene, which contains sequences of
14 two transposable elements, causes a strong transcriptional down-regulation (*SI Appendix*,
15 Fig. S10c-e). The suppression of *PYL10* by the 3' region likely enables higher ABA-related
16 responsiveness in *Arabidopsis*, unmasking the alternative, highly tuned receptors with a
17 broader response range.

18 To find out if the basal activity of PYL10, when its expression is enabled, is sufficient to
19 activate ABA signaling, we took advantage of the aforementioned receptor/*aba2-1* mutant
20 expression system. We transformed *aba2-1* with *PYL10* under the regulation of its native
21 promoter but without its 3' region sequence. *PYL10* transcription was observed in various
22 vegetative tissues as well as the developing seed, but not during germination (*SI Appendix*,
23 Fig. S11). Ectopic *PYL10* expression suppressed the *aba2-1* phenotype in both stature and
24 thermal signature of the canopy, in agreement with its promoter-enabled expression pattern,
25 as it did for seed maturation, size and weight (Fig. 3a-e and *SI Appendix*, Fig. S12).
26 Furthermore, detailed analysis of whole-plant gas exchange showed that plants expressing
27 *PYL10* had lower stomatal conductance, which was closer to wild type levels (Fig. 3c).
28 Expression of *PYL6*, *MpPYL1* and *ZcPYL8* driven by the *PYL10* promoter resulted in similar
29 suppression of the *aba2-1* phenotype (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S13 and 14). By contrast, the
30 expression of *PYR1*, an entirely ABA-dependent dimeric *Arabidopsis* receptor with low
31 basal activity, didn't suppress the *aba2-1* phenotype (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S13). Thus, in the
32 absence of external ABA, high basal receptor activity can drive what is normally the ABA
33 response, which would otherwise have been regulated by the highly tuned dimeric
34 receptors dominating the adaptive response in the presence of stress-triggered-ABA.

1 Combined with the phylogenetic relationship between PYL homologues (*SI Appendix*,
2 Fig. S2), our results suggest that the ancestral function of PYLs was likely an ABA-
3 independent PP2C inhibitory activity (Fig. 4). Along the evolutionary trajectory leading to the
4 last common ancestor of land plants, PYL proteins with basal activity gained ABA-
5 interactivity (Fig. 4). Interestingly, in case of the evolution of the auxin signaling cascade,
6 Martin-Arevalillo and colleagues recently proposed a similar scenario that entails the
7 modular evolution of a phytohormonal signaling cascade from a phytohormone-independent
8 origin in streptophyte algae (28). During the evolution and diversification of land plants, the
9 PYL protein family has expanded in a lineage-specific manner, giving rise to various
10 character states of basal as well as ABA-dependent activity. Most recently, angiosperms
11 gained another layer of ABA-dependency with the dimeric PYLs (Fig. 4). This suggests that
12 a dampening of the basal activity of the receptors was a driving force for the evolution of
13 ABA responsiveness in land plant PYLs.

14 In the broader sense, terrestrial stresses would have presented major challenges for
15 the earliest land plants (29, 30). While the ability to survive desiccation would have been a
16 necessary trait in the algal precursors of the land plants, this would be less desirable in their
17 anatomically more complex descendants. Vegetative desiccation ceases to be a
18 competitive evolutionary strategy when set against maintaining growth by using a hormone
19 to initiate a range of intermediate responses. Indeed desiccation tolerance, implying the
20 loss of all internal water, becomes a threat to survival, if the continuity of the vascular
21 system is compromised (31). In light of the presented findings, we propose that ABA-
22 mediated fine-tuning of the PP2C-SnRK2 signalling cascade was a key evolutionary
23 novelty—an added layer of regulation—that aided these plants in their conquest of land
24 (Fig. 4).

25

1 **Materials and methods**

2

3 **Plant material**

4 *Arabidopsis thaliana aba2-1* mutant strain and its background wild type strain Columbia
5 (Col-0) (34) were used. Unless otherwise indicated, *Arabidopsis thaliana* plants were grown
6 in a growth chamber (Percival Scientific USA) under short-day conditions (8 h light and 16 h
7 dark) and a controlled temperature of 20–22°C, with 70% humidity and light intensity of 70–
8 100 $\mu\text{E m}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$.

9

10 **DNA sequence**

11 Coding sequences of *ZcPYL8*, *MpPYL1*, *PpPYL1-3*, *SmPYL1-5*, ΔN *ZcABI1* (lacking N-
12 terminal amino acids 1-247), ΔN *MpABI1* (lacking residues 1-224) and *SmABI1* were
13 chemically synthesized (*SI Appendix*, Table 1). The *PYL10* promoter (2078 bp upstream
14 from the *PYL10* start codon) and the genomic sequences of *PYL10*, *PYL6* and *PYR1* were
15 amplified from Col-0 genomic DNA. The coding sequence of *PYL10* was amplified from
16 cDNA isolated from Col-0 seedlings. All sequences were amplified using Phusion High-
17 Fidelity DNA Polymerase (New England Biolabs), with the exception of the *PYL10* 3' end
18 (733 bp following the stop codon), which was amplified using KAPA HiFi HotStart DNA
19 Polymerase (Roche).

20

21 **Phylogenetic analyses of PYL sequences**

22 To generate the dataset of PYL sequences, streptophyte algal transcriptomes were
23 downloaded from the 1KP data (35), and a tBLASTn search was performed using all
24 *Arabidopsis thaliana* PYLs as well as the *Zygnema circumcarinatum* *ZcPYL8* as queries.
25 For the land plants, whole-genome data of *Physcomitrella patens* (36), *Marchantia*
26 *polymorpha* (20), *Selaginella moellendorffii* (37), *Azolla filiculoides* (38), *Picea abies* (39),
27 *Triticum aestivum* (International Wheat Genome Sequencing Consortium, 2018), *Oryza*
28 *sativa* (40), and *Solanum lycopersicum* (Tomato Genome Consortium, 2012) were
29 downloaded. The 14 PYR/PYL/RCAR sequences from the *Arabidopsis thaliana* TAIR10
30 release were used as queries for a BLASTp search of land plant proteomes to obtain the
31 PYL sequences. For *Oryza sativa*, and *Solanum lycopersicum*, the previously described
32 PYL sequence annotation was used (25, 41) Incomplete and strongly truncated sequences
33 were removed and sequences were aligned using MAFFT v7.305b (42) and the L -INS -I
34 settings. The tree was computed using IQ-TREE multicore version 1.5.5 (Linux 64-bit built

1 Jun 2 2017) (43), with 1000 bootstrap replicates. This run included a determination of the
2 best model using ModelFinder (44). ModelFinder computed log-likelihoods for 144 protein
3 substitution models and retrieved the lowest Akaike Information Criterion, Corrected Akaike
4 Information Criterion, and Bayesian Information Criterion for JTT+G4, which was hence
5 solicited as the best model and used for computing the tree.

6

7 **Yeast two-hybrid**

8 The coding regions of receptors were cloned into pBD-GAL4 (Clontech) fused to the GAL4
9 binding domain (BD). PP2Cs were cloned into pACT (Clontech), which expresses as GAL4
10 activation domain (AD) protein fusion. Both pBD-GAL4 and pACT were co-transformed into
11 *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* strain Y190, and positive colonies were selected on synthetic
12 dextrose (SD) agar medium, lacking Leu and Trp (-LW). strains expressing receptor PP2C-
13 combination were plated onto SD-LW containing 10 µM ABA or 0.1 % DMSO, as mock
14 control. Following incubation at 30°C for two days, interaction was visualized by X-gal
15 staining to monitor b-galactosidase reporter gene expression, as described previously (4).

16

17 **Receptor-mediated PP2C inhibition assay**

18 The coding sequences of *MpPYL1*, *PpPYL1-3*, *SmPYL1-5*, *PYL10^{CA}*, ΔN *ZcABI1* and ΔN
19 *MpABI1* were cloned into the pET28 vector, and *ZcPYL8* was cloned into a pSUMO fusion
20 vector, generating 6×His-tagged proteins. PYR1, PYL1-11 (except for PYL7) were
21 described previously (45). ΔN *HAB1* (lacking N-terminal amino acids 1-178) was used to
22 obtain 6×His-fused PP2C (46). Proteins were expressed in BL21(DE3)pLysS (Promega)
23 *E.coli* strain. For PYLs, transformed cells were pre-cultured overnight, then transferred into
24 500 mL of terrific broth (TB) medium, and cultured at 30 °C to OD₆₀₀=0.9. IPTG (1 mM) was
25 added, and cultures were further incubated at 15°C, overnight. For PP2C, 1 mM MgCl₂ and
26 1 mM IPTG were added at OD₆₀₀= 0.9, and samples were further incubated overnight, at
27 18°C. Cells were collected by centrifugation, suspended in buffer A (50 mM NaH₂PO₄, 300
28 mM NaCl, pH 8.0) plus 10 mM imidazole and stored at -80 °C. Cells were broken by two
29 freeze-thaw cycles followed by sonication for 60s. Centrifugation was performed and
30 cleared supernatant was loaded onto Ni-NTA agarose (Cube biotech), which was then
31 washed with buffer A supplemented with 30 mM imidazole. Proteins were eluted with buffer
32 A plus 250 mM imidazole. Recombinant proteins were dialyzed with 1×TBS (50 mM TRIS,
33 150 mM NaCl, pH 7.5), 20% glycerol, in 4°C, overnight. For purification of PP2C, 1 mM
34 MgCl₂ was added to all buffers. A receptor-mediated PP2C inhibition assay was performed

1 as previously described (47). Reactions comprised 0.5 μ M PP2C and either 0, 0.5, 1 or 2
2 μ M receptor and 33 mM Tris-acetate (pH 7.9), 66 mM potassium acetate, 0.1% BSA, 10
3 mM MnCl₂, 0.1% β -ME and 50 mM pNPP in the absence or presence of 10 μ M ABA.
4 Hydrolysis of pNPP was monitored at A_{405} by Epoch Microplate Spectrophotometer
5 (BioTek). PP2C activity in the absence of receptor was set as 100% activity. The ABA dose-
6 dependent PP2C inhibition assay was conducted as previously described (45) using 0.5 μ M
7 PP2C, and 1 μ M receptor. ABA was added at 0, 0.01, 0.025, 0.05, 0.1, 1, 10 μ M. PP2C
8 activity in the presence of receptor and absence of ABA was set as 100% activity. All
9 experiments were performed with two independent protein preparations.

10

11 Isothermal titration calorimetry

12 Proteins for ITC were dialyzed with ITC buffer containing 20 mM Tris pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl,
13 1 mM β -mercaptoethanol. PYL10, MpPYL1, and ZcPYL8 were assayed at concentrations of
14 110 μ M, 140 μ M and 45 μ M, respectively. Protein solution in the cell was titrated with the
15 ligand (+)ABA dissolved in the dialysis buffer. The concentrations of ABA stock in the
16 injection syringe for PYL10, MpPYL1 and ZcPYL8 were 1.1 mM, 1.4 mM and 0.45 mM,
17 respectively, and the final diluted ligand concentration was twofold higher than that of the
18 protein. ITC experiments were executed in ITC200 by a series of injections of 3 μ L ABA into
19 the ITC cell containing PYL, and heat was measured following the injection. The
20 calorimetric analysis program in the Origin suite was used for data evaluation and
21 presentation.

22

23 qRT-PCR

24 *Arabidopsis* leaf tissue was harvested and immediately frozen in liquid nitrogen. RNA was
25 extracted using the RNeasy Plant Mini Kit (QIAGEN) followed by DNase digestion using the
26 AMBION DNA-free™ Kit (Life Technologies) according to manufacturer's instructions. First
27 strand cDNA from 1000ng total RNA was synthesized using SuperScript™ III Reverse
28 Transcriptase (Thermo Fisher Scientific). qRT-PCR was performed using SYBR Green
29 ROX Mix (Thermo Fisher Scientific) on a Rotor-Gene Q system (Qiagen). Samples were
30 heated to 95°C for 30 sec, followed by 45 cycles of 95°C for 30 sec, 60°C for 30 sec and
31 72°C for 30 sec. Results were analyzed with Rotor-Gene Q Series software (Qiagen) using
32 the $\Delta\Delta CT$ method.

33

34 Western blot

1 Total proteins were extracted from liquid nitrogen-frozen tissue followed by SDS/PAGE
2 separation and transfer to a nitrocellulose membrane. The presence of HPB-fused protein
3 was detected with 1:5000 streptavidin-conjugated horseradish peroxidase (GE). Images
4 were acquired using ImageQuant LAS 4000 mini (GE) and were analyzed with ImageQuant
5 TL 1D v8.1 software (GE).

6

7 **ABA-deficient mutant phenotype suppression assay**

8 For 35S promoter-driven *ZcPYL8* and *MpPYL1*, coding sequences of *ZcPYL8* and
9 *MpPYL1* were cloned into pEGHPB under the control of 35S promoter. For PYL10
10 promoter-driven receptors, the 35S promoter was replaced by 2078-bp upstream sequence
11 of PYL10. Then, the coding sequences of *ZcPYL8*, *MpPYL1*, *PYL1*, *PYL6* and *PYL10* were
12 cloned into the above-mentioned vector under the control of PYL10 promoter. Constructs
13 were stably transformed into the *Arabidopsis* ABA-deficient mutant, *aba2-1*. Sixteen
14 independent T1 transformants for each construct were selected based on glufosinate
15 resistance. Fresh weight and leaf temperature were monitored after two months of growth
16 under short-day conditions. Two independent T₃ single-copy lines expressing *PYL10* were
17 obtained for gas exchange experiments.

18

19 **Thermal analysis**

20 Two-month-old *Arabidopsis* plants grown in growth chambers at 22°C, 10 h light/14 h dark
21 were using for thermal analysis. The thermal images of the plants were taken at 10 AM
22 using a FLIR T630 camera (FLIR). Canopy temperature of plants was measured with Flir
23 Tools v5.2.15161.1001 software (FLIR). Each dot in box plots represent means of 8-10
24 measurements of individual plant.

25

26 **Gas exchange experiments**

27 For gas exchange experiments, *Arabidopsis* seeds were planted in soil containing 2:1 (v:v)
28 peat:vermiculite and grown well-watered in growth chambers (Snijders Scientific,
29 Drogenbos, Belgia), under 12/12 photoperiod, 23°/18°C temperature, 150 µmol m⁻² s⁻¹ light
30 and 70% relative humidity conditions, and were 25-30 days old during experiments. Whole-
31 rosette stomatal conductances were recorded with an 8-chamber custom-built temperature-
32 controlled gas-exchange device analogous to the one described before. Plants were
33 inserted into the measurement cuvettes and allowed to stabilize at standard conditions:

1 ambient CO₂ (~400 ppm), light 150 µmol m⁻² s⁻¹ and relative air humidity (RH) ~60 ± 5%. In
2 diurnal experiments, the dark period lasted from 8 PM to 8 AM, similar to growth chamber
3 conditions. In ABA treatment experiments, 5 µM ABA with 0.012% Silwet L-77 (Duchefa)
4 and 0.05% ethanol was sprayed on the leaves, and plants were put back into cuvettes and
5 for continued measurement of leaf conductance. Photographs of plants were taken after the
6 experiment and leaf rosette area was calculated using ImageJ 1.37v (National Institutes of
7 Health, USA). Stomatal conductance for water vapor was calculated with a custom-written
8 program, as previously described (48).

9

10 **Site-directed mutagenesis**

11 Mutants were generated using the QuikChange Lightning Multi Site-Directed Mutagenesis
12 Kit (Agilent, USA) according to the manufacturer's instruction. Sequences of mutagenesis
13 primers are provided in *SI Appendix*, Table 1.

14

15 **Statistical analysis**

16 All data were statistically analyzed using JMP pro 12 statistical package (SAS Institute).
17 Tukey HSD test was used for fresh weight, leaf temperature, seed length and hundred-seed
18 weight analysis. Student's *t*-test was used for qRT-PCR analysis. All box plots, bar graphs
19 and connecting lines were generated using Origin 8.1 Software.

20

21 **Data availability**

22 Primers, sequences and accession numbers of genes analyzed in this study are listed in
23 supplemental table. Seeds of transgenic lines used in this study are available from the
24 corresponding authors upon request.

25

1 **Acknowledgements**

2 We thank Sean Cutler, Idan Efroni, Ori Naomi and Shahal abbo for the insightful
3 discussions and for commenting on the ideas presented here. We thank Oded Pri-tal for
4 graphic assistance. This research was supported by grants from the Israel Science
5 Foundation (661/18), Israel Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund (IS-
6 4919-16 R) and German-Israel Foundation, Young scientists Program-(I-2410-203.13/2016)
7 Y. S. is was supported partly by The Lady Davis Fellowship Trust for the award of a Golda
8 Meir Fellowship. J.d.V. thanks the German Research Foundation (DFG) for a Return Grant
9 (VR132/3-1) and the European Research Council (ERC) for funding under the European
10 Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (grant agreement No. 852725,
11 ERC-StG "TerreStriAL"). E.M. was supported by the Estonian Research Council (PUT1133).

12
13 **Author contributions.**

14 Y.S. conducted all the receptor and phosphatase assays, and designed and performed all
15 the genetic analysis. B.H. and A.W.Y. helped with the generation of transgenic plants. J.d.V.
16 performed the phylogenetic analysis and evolutionary synthesis. M.G. conducted and
17 analyzed the ITC analysis, and E. M. and H.K. performed the stomatal conductance
18 measurements and analysis. A.M, and Y.S designed and supervised experiments
19 collaboratively. A.M., Y.S., D.M. and A.C.C. drafted the manuscript, with contributions from
20 all co-authors.

21

1 References

- 2
- 3 1. E. Nambara, A. Marion-Poll, Abscisic acid biosynthesis and catabolism. *Annu. Rev. Plant Biol.* **56**, 165-185 (2005).
- 4 2. F. Hauser, R. Waadt, J. I. Schroeder, Evolution of abscisic acid synthesis and signaling mechanisms. *Curr. Biol.* **21**,
5 R346-355 (2011).
- 6 3. Y. Ma *et al.*, Regulators of PP2C phosphatase activity function as abscisic acid sensors. *Science* **324**, 1064-1068.
7 (2009).
- 8 4. S. Y. Park *et al.*, Abscisic acid inhibits type 2C protein phosphatases via the PYR/PYL family of START proteins.
9 *Science* **324**, 1068-1071 (2009).
- 10 5. S. R. Cutler, P. L. Rodriguez, R. R. Finkelstein, S. R. Abrams, Abscisic acid: emergence of a core signaling network.
11 *Annu. Rev. Plant Biol.* **61**, 651-679 (2010).
- 12 6. K. Melcher *et al.*, A gate-latch-lock mechanism for hormone signaling by abscisic acid receptors. *Nature* **462**, 602-
13 608 (2009).
- 14 7. K. Miyazono *et al.*, Structural basis of abscisic acid signaling. *Nature* **462**, 609-614 (2009).
- 15 8. J. Santiago *et al.*, The abscisic acid receptor PYR1 in complex with abscisic acid. *Nature* **462**, 665-668 (2009).
- 16 9. P. Yin *et al.*, Structural insights into the mechanism of abscisic acid signaling by PYL proteins. *Nat. Struct. Mol. Biol.*
17 **16**, 1230-1236 (2009).
- 18 10. F. F. Soon *et al.*, Molecular mimicry regulates ABA signaling by SnRK2 kinases and PP2C phosphatases. *Science*
19 **335**, 85-88 (2012).
- 20 11. T. Miyakawa, Y. Fujita, K. Yamaguchi-Shinozaki, M. Tanokura, Structure and function of abscisic acid receptors.
21 *Trends Plant Sci.* **18**, 259-266 (2013).
- 22 12. D. Gonzalez-Ballester, S. V. Pollock, W. Pootakham, A. R. Grossman, The central role of a SNRK2 kinase in sulfur
23 deprivation responses. *Plant Physiol.* **147**, 216-227 (2008).
- 24 13. H. Fujii, J. K. Zhu, *Arabidopsis* mutant deficient in 3 abscisic acid-activated protein kinases reveals critical roles in
25 growth, reproduction, and stress. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **106**, 8380-8385 (2009).
- 26 14. C. Lind, *et al.*, Stomatal guard cells co-opted an ancient ABA-dependent desiccation survival system to regulate
27 stomatal closure. *Curr. Biol.* **25**, 928-935 (2015).
- 28 15. A. Shinozawa, *et al.*, SnRK2 protein kinases represent an ancient system in plants for adaptation to a terrestrial
29 environment. *Commun. Biol.* **2**, 30 (2019).
- 30 16. T. Umezawa, *et al.*, Molecular basis of the core regulatory network in ABA responses: sensing, signaling and
31 transport. *Plant Cell Physiol.* **51**, 1821-1839 (2010).
- 32 17. F. Dupeux, *et al.*, A thermodynamic switch modulates abscisic acid receptor sensitivity. *EMBO J.* **30**, 4171-4184
33 (2011).
- 34 18. W. Hartung, The evolution of abscisic acid (ABA) and ABA function in lower plants, fungi and lichen. *Funct. Plant
35 Biol.* **37**, 806-812 (2010).
- 36 19. J. de Vries, B. A. Curtis, S. B. Gould, J. M. Archibald, Embryophyte stress signaling evolved in the algal progenitors
37 of land plants. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **115**, E3471-E3480 (2018).
- 38 20. J. L. Bowman *et al.*, Insights into land plant evolution garnered from the *Marchantia polymorpha* genome. *Cell*
39 **171**, 287-304 e215 (2017).
- 40 21. M. Rippin, B. Becker, A. Holzinger, Enhanced desiccation tolerance in mature cultures of the streptophytic green
41 alga *Zygnema circumcarinatum* revealed by transcriptomics. *Plant Cell Physiol.* **58**, 2067-2084 (2017).
- 42 22. M. L. Irigoyen *et al.*, Targeted degradation of abscisic acid receptors is mediated by the ubiquitin ligase substrate
43 adaptor DDA1 in *Arabidopsis*. *Plant Cell* **26**, 712-728 (2014).
- 44 23. Q. Hao *et al.*, The molecular basis of ABA-independent inhibition of PP2Cs by a subclass of PYL proteins. *Mol. Cell*
45 **42**, 662-672 (2011).
- 46 24. M. Gonzalez-Guzman *et al.*, Tomato PYR/PYL/RCAR abscisic acid receptors show high expression in root,
47 differential sensitivity to the abscisic acid agonist quinabactin, and the capability to enhance plant drought
48 resistance. *J. Exp. Bot.* **65**, 4451-4464 (2014).
- 49 25. Y. He *et al.*, Identification and characterization of ABA receptors in *Oryza sativa*. *PLoS One* **9**, e95246 (2014).
- 50 26. H. Fujioka *et al.*, Aberrant protein phosphatase 2C leads to abscisic acid insensitivity and high transpiration in
51 parasitic *Striga*. *Nature Plants* **5**, 258-262 (2019).
- 52 27. R. Mega *et al.*, Tuning water-use efficiency and drought tolerance in wheat using abscisic acid receptors. *Nature
53 Plants* **5**, 153-159 (2019).
- 54 28. R. Martin-Arevalillo *et al.*, Evolution of the auxin response factors from charophyte ancestors. *PLoS Genet.* **15**,
55 e1008400 (2019).
- 56 29. C. F. Delwiche, E. D. Cooper, The evolutionary origin of a terrestrial flora. *Curr. Biol.* **25**, R899-910 (2015).

- 1 30. A. C. Cuming, S. R. Stevenson, From pond slime to rain forest: the evolution of ABA signalling and the acquisition
2 of dehydration tolerance. *New Phytol.* **206**, 5-7 (2015).
- 3 31. W. R. Anderegg, Spatial and temporal variation in plant hydraulic traits and their relevance for climate change
4 impacts on vegetation. *New Phytol.* **205**, 1008-1014 (2015).
- 5 32. J. de Vries, J. M. Archibald, Plant evolution: landmarks on the path to terrestrial life. *New Phytol.* **217**, 1428-1434
6 (2018).
- 7 33. J. L. Morris *et al.*, The timescale of early land plant evolution. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **115**, E2274-E2283 (2018).
- 8 34. K. M. Leon-Kloosterziel *et al.*, Isolation and characterization of abscisic acid-deficient *Arabidopsis* mutants at two
9 new loci. *Plant J.* **10**, 655-661 (1996).
- 10 35. X. Wu *et al.*, Data access for the 1,000 Plants (1KP) project (2014).
- 11 36. S. A. Rensing *et al.*, The *Physcomitrella* genome reveals evolutionary insights into the conquest of land by plants.
12 *Science* **319**, 64-69 (2008).
- 13 37. J. A. Banks *et al.*, The *Selaginella* genome identifies genetic changes associated with the evolution of vascular
14 plants. *Science* **332**, 960-963 (2011).
- 15 38. F. W. Li *et al.*, Fern genomes elucidate land plant evolution and cyanobacterial symbioses. *Nature Plants* **4**, 460-
16 472 (2018).
- 17 39. B. Nystedt *et al.*, The Norway spruce genome sequence and conifer genome evolution. *Nature* **497**, 579-584
18 (2013).
- 19 40. S. Ouyang *et al.*, The TIGR rice genome annotation resource: improvements and new features. *Nucleic Acids Res.*
20 **35**, D883-887 (2007).
- 21 41. P. Chen *et al.*, Interactions of ABA signaling core components (SIPYLs, SIPP2Cs, and SISnRK2s) in tomato (*Solanum*
22 *lycopersicum*). *J. Plant Physiol.* **205**, 67-74 (2016).
- 23 42. K. Katoh, D. M. Standley, MAFFT multiple sequence alignment software version 7: improvements in performance
24 and usability. *Mol. Biol. Evol.* **30**, 772-780 (2013).
- 25 43. L. T. Nguyen, H. A. Schmidt, A. von Haeseler, B. Q. Minh, IQ-TREE: a fast and effective stochastic algorithm for
26 estimating maximum-likelihood phylogenies. *Mol. Biol. Evol.* **32**, 268-274 (2015).
- 27 44. S. Kalyaanamoorthy, B. Q. Minh, T. K. F. Wong, A. von Haeseler, L. S. Jermiin, ModelFinder: fast model selection for
28 accurate phylogenetic estimates. *Nat. Methods* **14**, 587-589 (2017).
- 29 45. M. Okamoto *et al.*, Activation of dimeric ABA receptors elicits guard cell closure, ABA-regulated gene expression,
30 and drought tolerance. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **110**, 12132-12137 (2013).
- 31 46. A. Saez, A. Rodrigues, J. Santiago, S. Rubio, P. L. Rodriguez, HAB1-SWI3B interaction reveals a link between
32 abscisic acid signaling and putative SWI/SNF chromatin-remodeling complexes in *Arabidopsis*. *Plant Cell* **20**,
33 2972-2988 (2008).
- 34 47. A. Mosquina *et al.*, Potent and selective activation of abscisic acid receptors in vivo by mutational stabilization of
35 their agonist-bound conformation. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **108**, 20838-20843 (2011).
- 36 48. T. Kollist *et al.*, A novel device detects a rapid ozone-induced transient stomatal closure in intact *Arabidopsis* and
37 its absence in *abi2* mutant. *Physiol. Plantarum* **129**, 796-803 (2007).

38
39

1 **Figure legends**

2 **Figure 1: Evolution of ABA receptors indicates an increase in ABA dependency as a**
3 **result of reduction of basal activity.**

4 Recombinant 6×His-Sumo-ZcPYL8 (**a**), 6×His-MpPYL1 (**b**), PpPYL1, PpPYL3 (**c**),
5 SmPYL1-5 (**d**), PYR1, PYL1-6, PYL8, PYL10, MBP-PYL9 and -11 (**e**) were expressed in *E.*
6 *coli*, purified and used in PP2C activity assays with 6×His-PP2C (ZcABI1, MpABI1,
7 PpABI1A or HAB1). Reactions were performed with 0.5 μM 6×His-PP2C and varying
8 concentrations of PYL (0, 0.5, 1.0, 2.0 μM) in the absence (green) or presence (orange) of
9 10 μM ABA. PP2C activity is expressed as percentage of activity of PP2C in the absence of
10 receptor. Graphs plot average values from three technical repeats, and error bars indicate
11 SD. Results shown were reproduced with three independent protein purifications. Numbers
12 of receptors encoded by corresponding species are shown in green circles. The
13 phylogenetic tree of plant lineages was built according to Bowman et al.(20). The length of
14 the branches does not indicate evolutionary dating. The inserted box depicts the dynamic
15 response range of receptor activity. The numbers on bar show the range of receptor activity
16 from low at the left (without ABA) to high at the right (saturated with ABA). ZcPYL8 have no
17 activity range. All the values were captured at 1:2 PP2C:PYL ratio. Plant icons are not to
18 scale.

19

20 **Figure 2. ZcPYL8 shows basal activity but no responsiveness to ABA.**

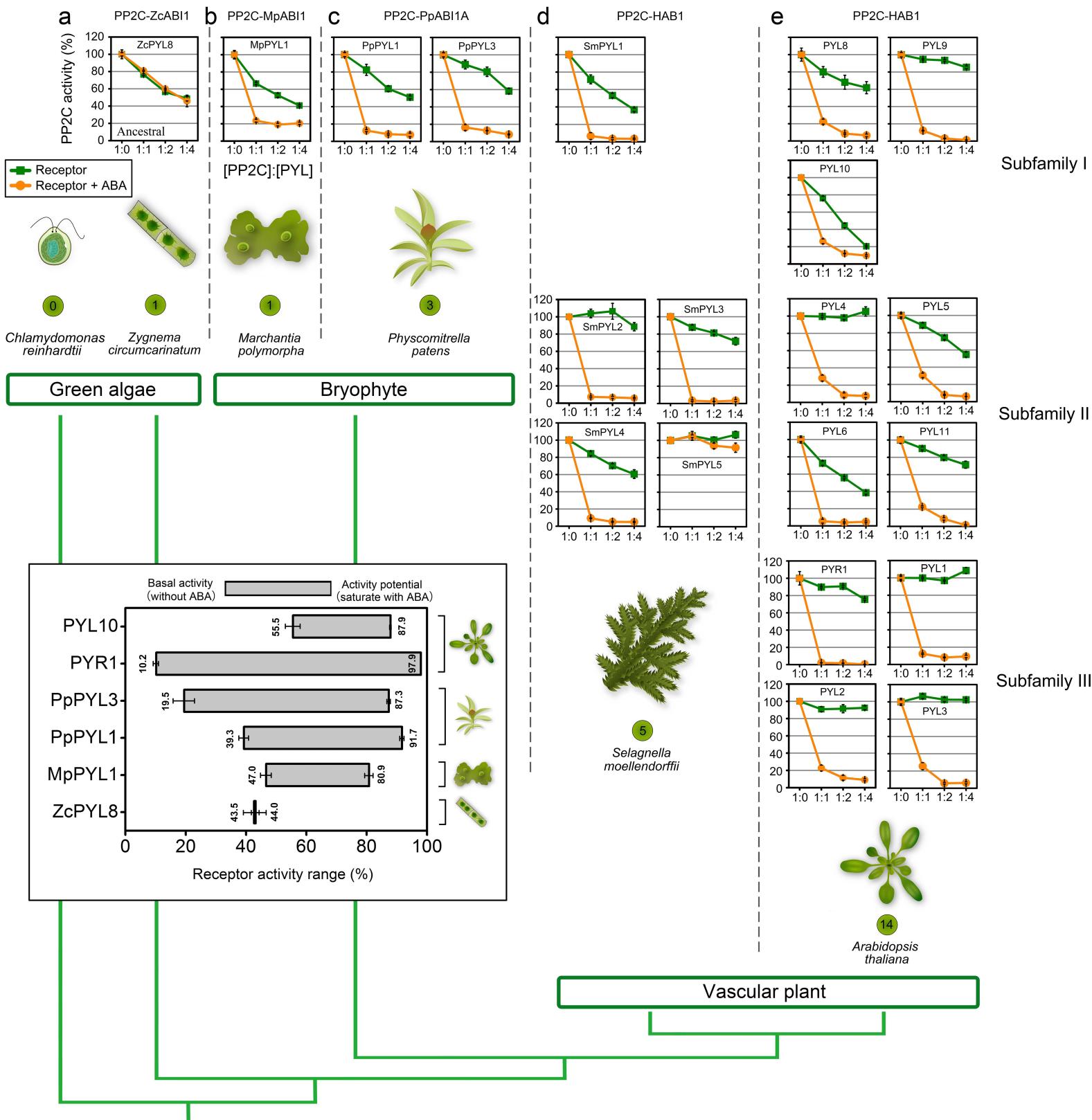
21 ZcPYL8 or MpPYL1 were expressed under the CaMV 35S promoter in the ABA-deficient
22 mutant *aba2-1*. Independent T1 plants were selected based on glufosinate resistance and
23 transplanted to soil alongside the *Col-0* and *aba2-1* controls (indicated by red and blue
24 boxes, respectively). Suppression of ABA-deficient phenotype was scored visually based on
25 phenotype and thermography, and quantified. **a-c** Phenotype of *aba2-1* plants expressing
26 ZcPYL8 or MpPYL1. **a** Fresh weight, **b** and **c** Leaf temperature and thermograph. **b** before
27 and **c**, temperature change following a day after spraying with 10 μM ABA. Photographs
28 were captured and measurements performed after 4 weeks of growth under short-day
29 conditions (8/16 day/night). Different letters indicate statistically significant differences
30 (Tukey HSD test, $df=3$, $p<0.01$, for transgenic plants, $n=16$; for WT and *aba2-1*, $n=10$). **d**,
31 Isothermal titration calorimetry (ITC) profiles and thermodynamic data from titration of
32 ZcPYL8, MpPYL1 or PYL10 with ABA, following a series of injections of 3 μL of ABA into
33 the ITC cell. Each peak shows the heat measured following the injection.

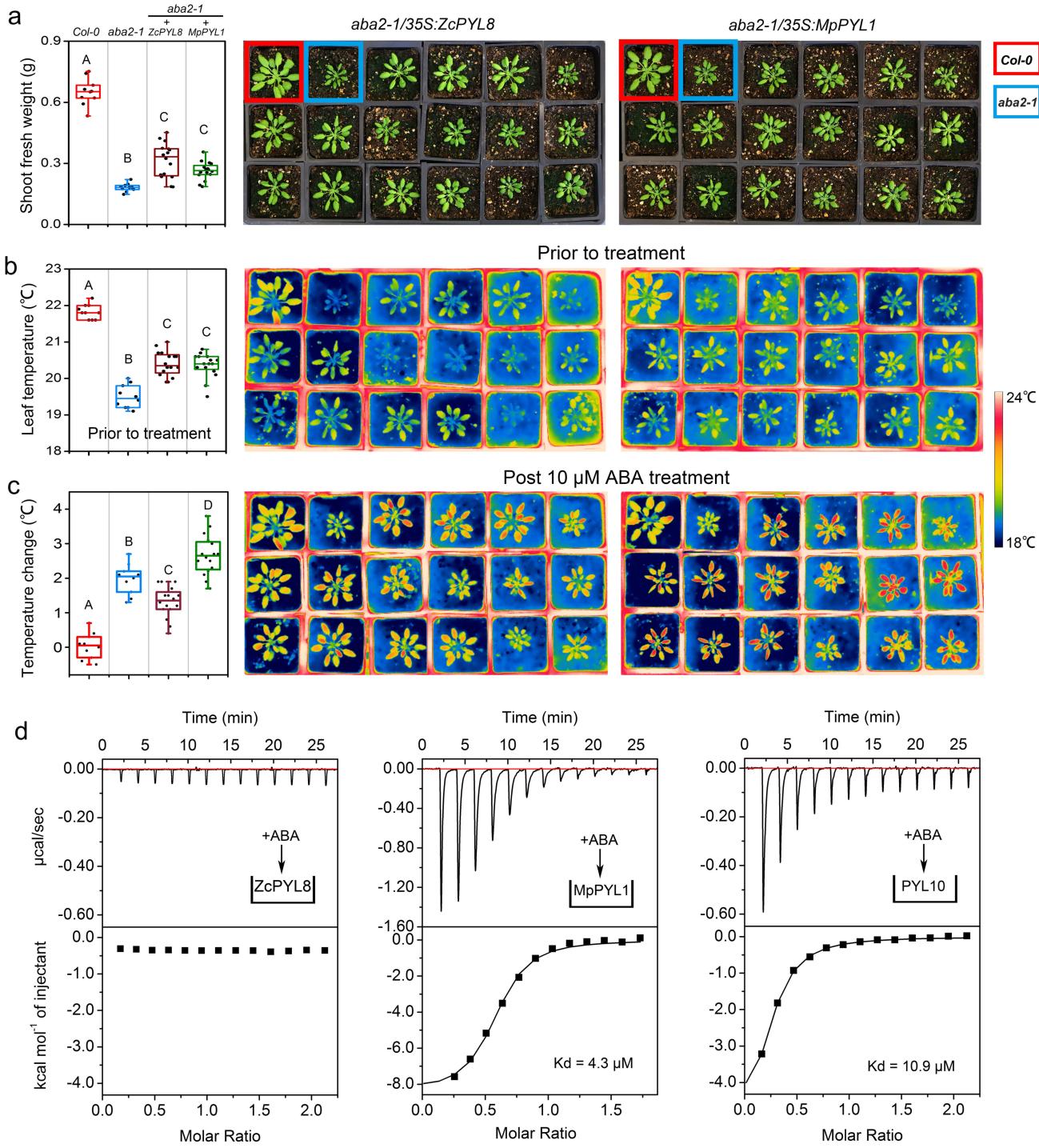
Figure 3: Basal activity of PYL10 is sufficient to triggers ABA physiological response.

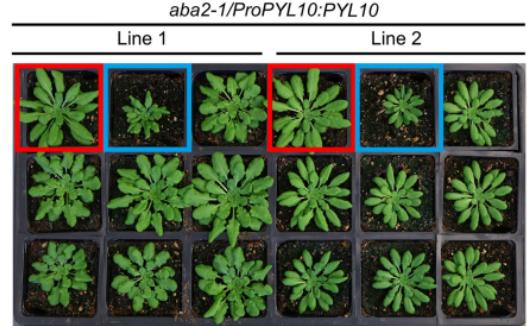
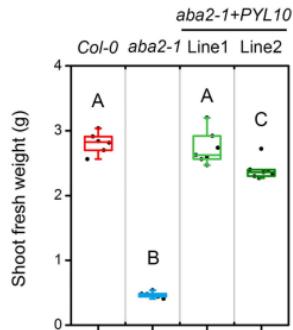
a, Phenotype and fresh weight of wild type (WT) (*Col-0*), *aba2-1*, and *aba2-1* mutants expressing PYL10. **b**, Thermograph and leaf temperature of WT, *aba2-1* and PYL10 transgenic plants. Photographs were taken after 6 weeks of growth under short-day conditions (8/16 day/night). Different letters indicate statistically significant differences between transgenic plants and *aba2-1* controls (Tukey HSD test, $df=3$, $p<0.01$, for transgenic plants, $n=7$, for WT and *aba2-1*, $n=6$). **c**, Diurnal changes in stomatal conductance of *Col-0*, *aba2-1*, and PYL10-expressing transgenic lines. Plants were kept in a whole-rosette gas exchange measurement device, and stomatal conductance was monitored during a diurnal light/dark cycle. **d** and **e**, Seeds of each genotypes were stratified for 4 d at 4 °C on agar medium containing 5 µM paclobutrazol (Pac) or 150 mM sodium chloride (NaCl). Germination was scored 60 h post-imbibition. Representative images were showed in **d**. Values plotted in **e** are average of three independent experiments, and error bars indicate SD.

Figure 4. Proposed scenario of the step-wise evolution of the role of PYL proteins in the PP2C-SnRK2s cascade.

The monophyletic streptophyte lineage comprises the land plants and the ZCC-grade and KCM-grade charophyte algae (green cladogram) (32). All the signal-transduction and downstream targets of ABA-signalling (PP2C, SnRK2s, transcription factors (bZIP) and ion channels (SLAC1) are present at the base of the streptophyte clade. All these algae also probably synthesize the ABA molecule (grey). Heterologous expression analysis of KCM algal (*Klebsormidium nitens*) components indicated existence of a regulatory “wiring” with these three components (yellow line)—suggesting its emergence already in KCM algae. Our data showed that with the gain of the PYL proteins in a common ancestor of land plants and Zygnetophyceae, the ‘basal’, ABA-independent, PP2C-inhibitory activity of PYLs was gained (orange line). The Zygnetophycean PYL homologues appear to only have basal activity, hence, designating them ‘pre-PYL’. Along the evolutionary trajectory from the algal progenitor to the last common ancestor of land plants, the basal PP2C-inhibitory activity of PYLs became supplemented by ABA-dependent activity (blue line). In angiosperms, another layer of regulation was gained with the dimeric subfamily III PYLs (purple line). All dating is based on Morris et al. (33). Species names of the streptophytes used in this study are highlighted in green.

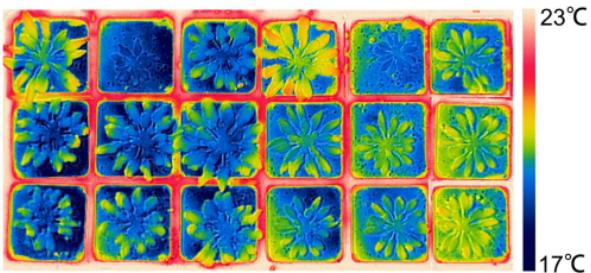
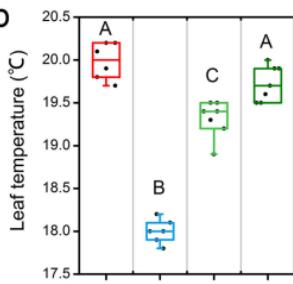
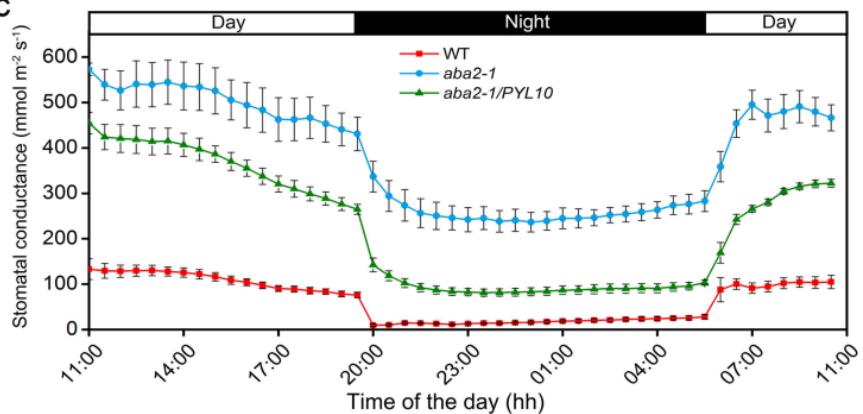
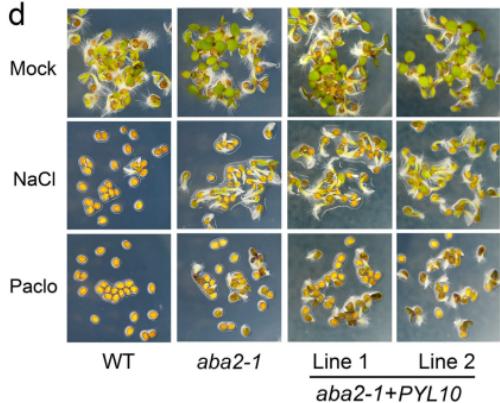
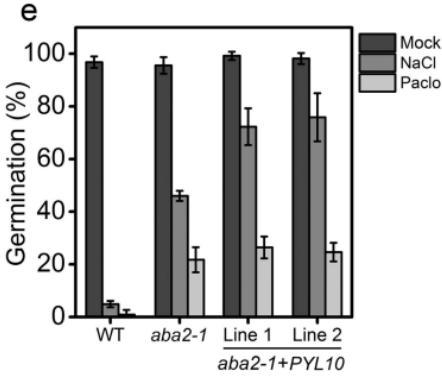




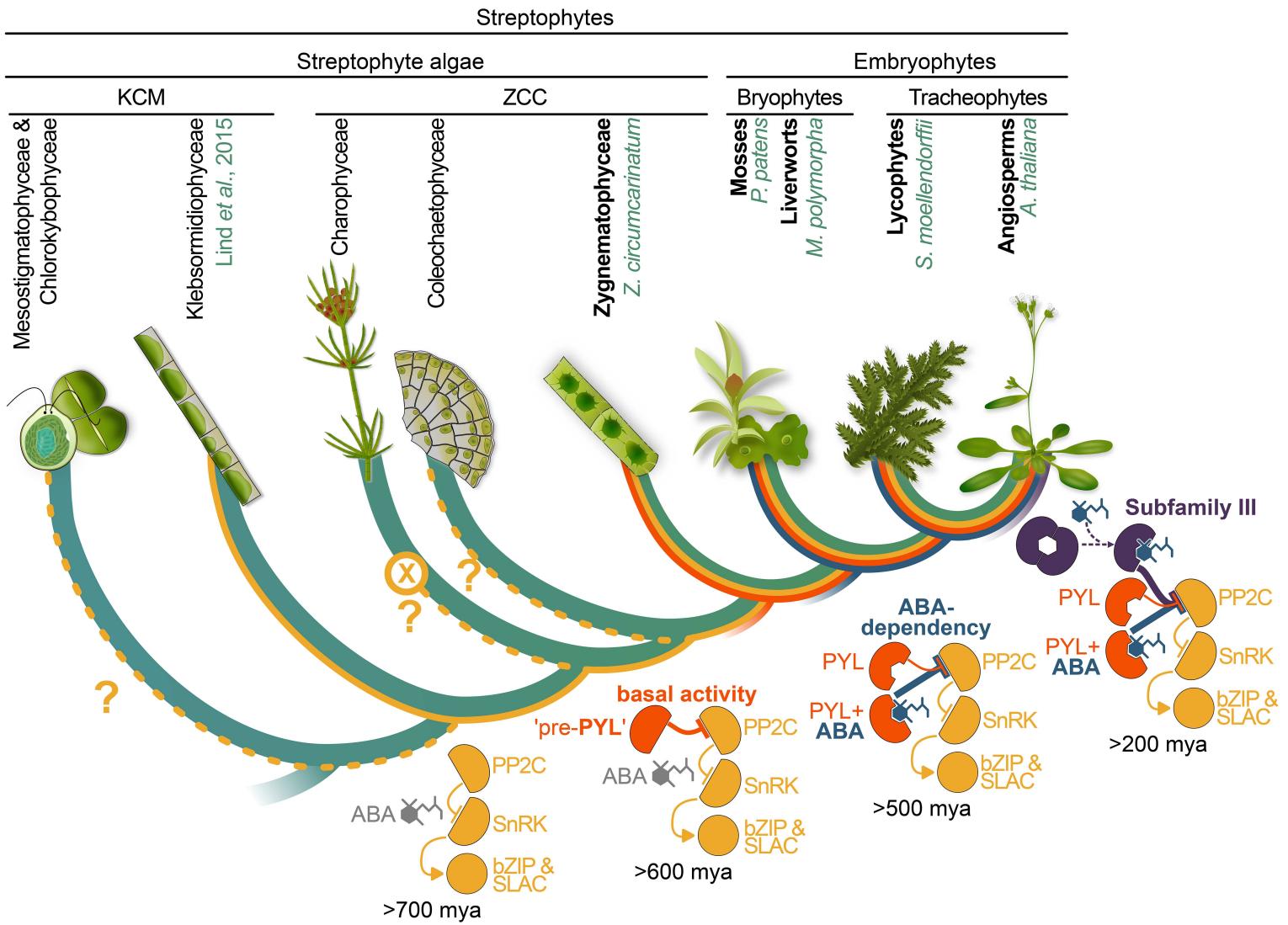
a

WT

aba2-1

b**c****d****e**

Mock
NaCl
PaclO

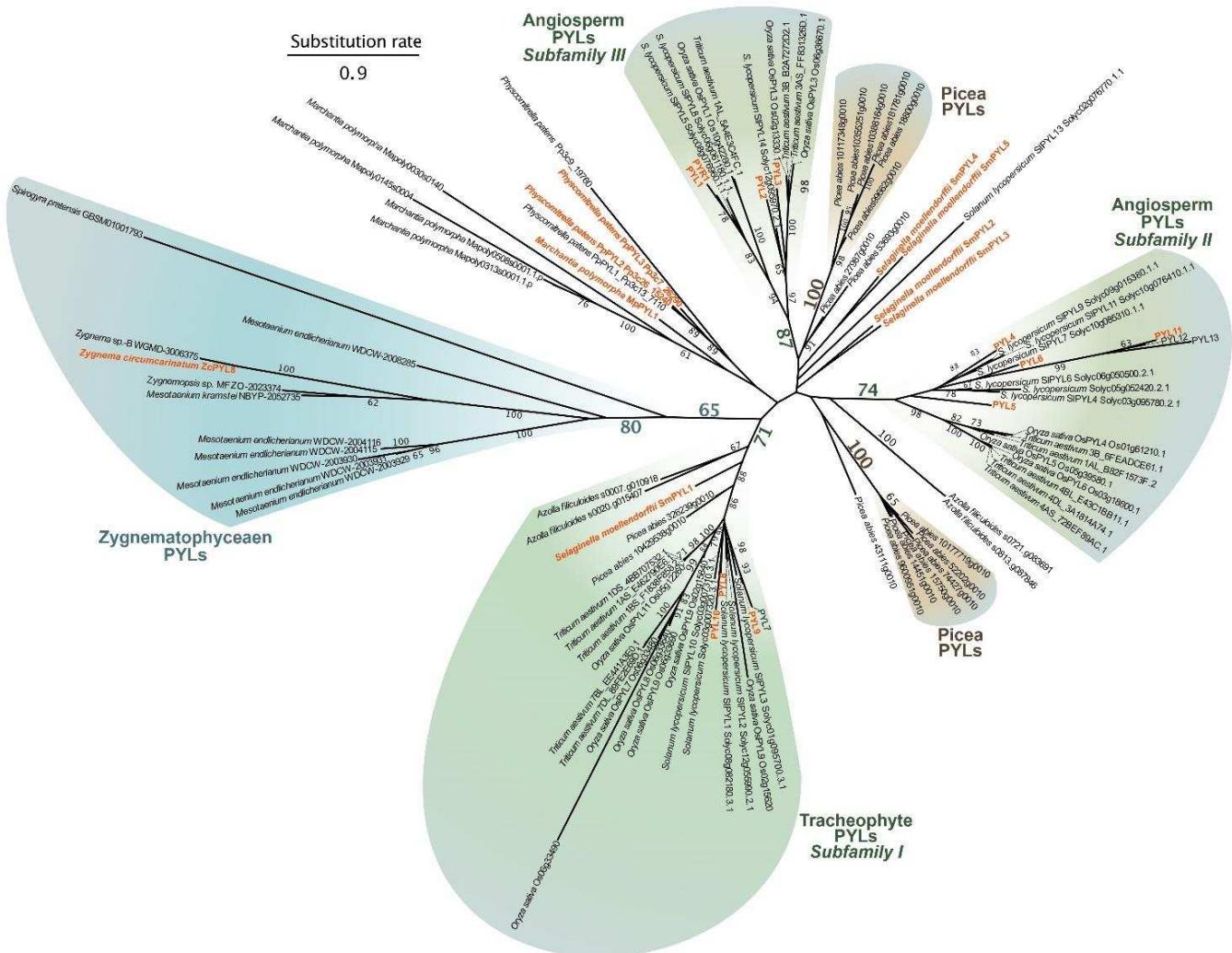


Species	Accession	Similarity to ZcPYL8 (%)	Similarity to PYR1 (%)
Zygnema sp	WGMD_scaffold_3006375	90	31
Zygnemopsis sp	MFZO_scaffold_2023374	53	32
Mesotaeniium kramstae	NBYP_scaffold_2052735	50	37
Mesotaeniium endlicherianum	WDCW_scaffold_2003929	34	31
Mesotaeniium endlicherianum	WDCW_scaffold_2003930	22	21
Mesotaeniium endlicherianum	WDCW_scaffold_2003931	31	26
Mesotaeniium endlicherianum	WDCW_scaffold_2004115	31	28
Mesotaeniium endlicherianum	WDCW_scaffold_2004116	33	33
Mesotaeniium endlicherianum	WDCW_scaffold_2008285	33	40
Spirogyra pratensis	GBSM01001793	16	22

LIG	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
	PPI	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
PYR1	K ₅₉	H ₆₀	F ₆₁	I ₆₂	K ₆₃	V ₆₄	V ₆₅	I ₆₆	S ₆₇	G ₆₈	L ₆₉	P ₇₀	A ₇₁	S ₇₂	E ₇₃	H ₇₄	F ₇₅	I ₇₆	I ₇₇	H ₇₈	R ₇₉	G ₈₀	P ₈₁	B ₈₂	G ₈₃		
ZcPYL8	M ₆₅	M ₆₆	F ₆₇	I ₆₈	T ₆₉	V ₇₀	V ₇₁	G ₇₂	K ₇₃	S ₇₄	G ₇₅	E ₇₆	R ₇₇	P ₇₈	E ₇₉	Y ₈₀	T ₈₁	P ₈₂	E ₈₃	Y ₈₄	T ₈₅	F ₈₆	E ₈₇	Y ₈₈	P ₈₉	I ₉₀	
WGMD_scaffold_3006375	M ₅	P ₆	F ₇	V ₈	T ₉	V ₁₀	V ₁₁	G ₁₂	K ₁₃	S ₁₄	M ₁₅	P ₁₆	N ₁₇	S ₁₈	G ₁₉	C ₂₀	E ₂₁	P ₂₂	G ₂₃	R ₂₄	D ₂₅	I ₂₆	T ₂₇	N ₂₈	A ₂₉	M ₃₀	
MFZO_scaffold_2023374	N ₅₅	P ₅₆	F ₅₇	V ₅₈	A ₅₉	L ₆₀	M ₆₁	T ₆₂	S ₆₃	S ₆₄	G ₆₅	E ₆₆	P ₆₇	B ₆₈	G ₆₉	Q ₇₀	E ₇₁	P ₇₂	V ₇₃	T ₇₄	N ₇₅	O ₇₆	C ₇₇	T ₇₈	T ₇₉	N ₈₀	
NBYP_scaffold_2052735	G ₅₅	G ₅₆	F ₅₇	I ₅₈	T ₅₉	V ₆₀	V ₆₁	M ₆₂	T ₆₃	F ₆₄	G ₆₅	B ₆₆	E ₆₇	P ₆₈	G ₆₉	Y ₇₀	E ₇₁	P ₇₂	G ₇₃	R ₇₄	C ₇₅	E ₇₆	E ₇₇	A ₇₈	C ₇₉	G ₈₀	
WDCW_scaffold_2003929	R ₉₄	S ₉₅	I ₉₆	V ₉₇	L ₉₈	V ₉₉	I ₁₀₀	Y ₁₀₁	I ₁₀₂	G ₁₀₃	I ₁₀₄	G ₁₀₅	I ₁₀₆	S ₁₀₇	G ₁₀₈	I ₁₀₉	G ₁₁₀	R ₁₁₁	T ₁₁₂	H ₁₁₃	E ₁₁₄	I ₁₁₅	G ₁₁₆	H ₁₁₇	P ₁₁₈	S ₁₁₉	
WDCW_scaffold_2003930	R ₉₄	S ₉₅	I ₉₆	V ₉₇	L ₉₈	V ₉₉	I ₁₀₀	Y ₁₀₁	I ₁₀₂	G ₁₀₃	I ₁₀₄	G ₁₀₅	I ₁₀₆	S ₁₀₇	G ₁₀₈	I ₁₀₉	G ₁₁₀	R ₁₁₁	T ₁₁₂	H ₁₁₃	E ₁₁₄	I ₁₁₅	G ₁₁₆	H ₁₁₇	P ₁₁₈	S ₁₁₉	
WDCW_scaffold_2003931	R ₄₁	R ₄₂	L ₄₃	V ₄₄	L ₄₅	G ₄₆	V ₄₇	E ₄₈	I ₄₉	S ₅₀	S ₅₁	G ₅₂	P ₅₃	P ₅₄	M ₅₅	S ₅₆	E ₅₇	G ₅₈	I ₅₉	T ₆₀	H ₆₁	T ₆₂	N ₆₃	S ₆₄	T ₆₅	G ₆₆	
WDCW_scaffold_2004114	R ₂₃	S ₂₄	I ₂₅	V ₂₆	I ₂₇	G ₂₈	V ₂₉	G ₃₀	I ₃₁	S ₃₂	S ₃₃	G ₃₄	P ₃₅	P ₃₆	M ₃₇	S ₃₈	E ₃₉	G ₄₀	I ₄₁	T ₄₂	H ₄₃	T ₄₄	N ₄₅	S ₄₆	T ₄₇	G ₄₈	
WDCW_scaffold_2004116	R ₆₇	S ₆₈	M ₆₉	V ₇₀	S ₇₁	V ₇₂	I ₇₃	V ₇₄	S ₇₅	S ₇₆	G ₇₇	P ₇₈	P ₇₉	G ₈₀	D ₈₁	E ₈₂	M ₈₃	B ₈₄	S ₈₅	R ₈₆	T ₈₇	N ₈₈	S ₈₉	T ₉₀	G ₉₁	T ₉₂	N ₉₃
WDCW_scaffold_2008285	R ₇₂	W ₇₃	A ₇₄	T ₇₅	G ₇₆	M ₇₇	T ₇₈	V ₇₉	I ₈₀	T ₈₁	G ₈₂	P ₈₃	P ₈₄	G ₈₅	E ₈₆	I ₈₇	E ₈₈	T ₈₉	P ₉₀	G ₉₁	I ₉₂	E ₉₃	T ₉₄	N ₉₅	S ₉₆	T ₉₇	N ₉₈
GBSM01001793	K ₇₅	P ₇₆	L ₇₇	I ₇₈	K ₇₉	V ₈₀	V ₈₁	G ₈₂	E ₈₃	V ₈₄	A ₈₅	E ₈₆	P ₈₇	P ₈₈	L ₈₉	G ₉₀	E ₉₁	T ₉₂	I ₉₃	G ₉₄	I ₉₅	E ₉₆	T ₉₇	N ₉₈	S ₉₉	T ₁₀₀	N ₁₀₁

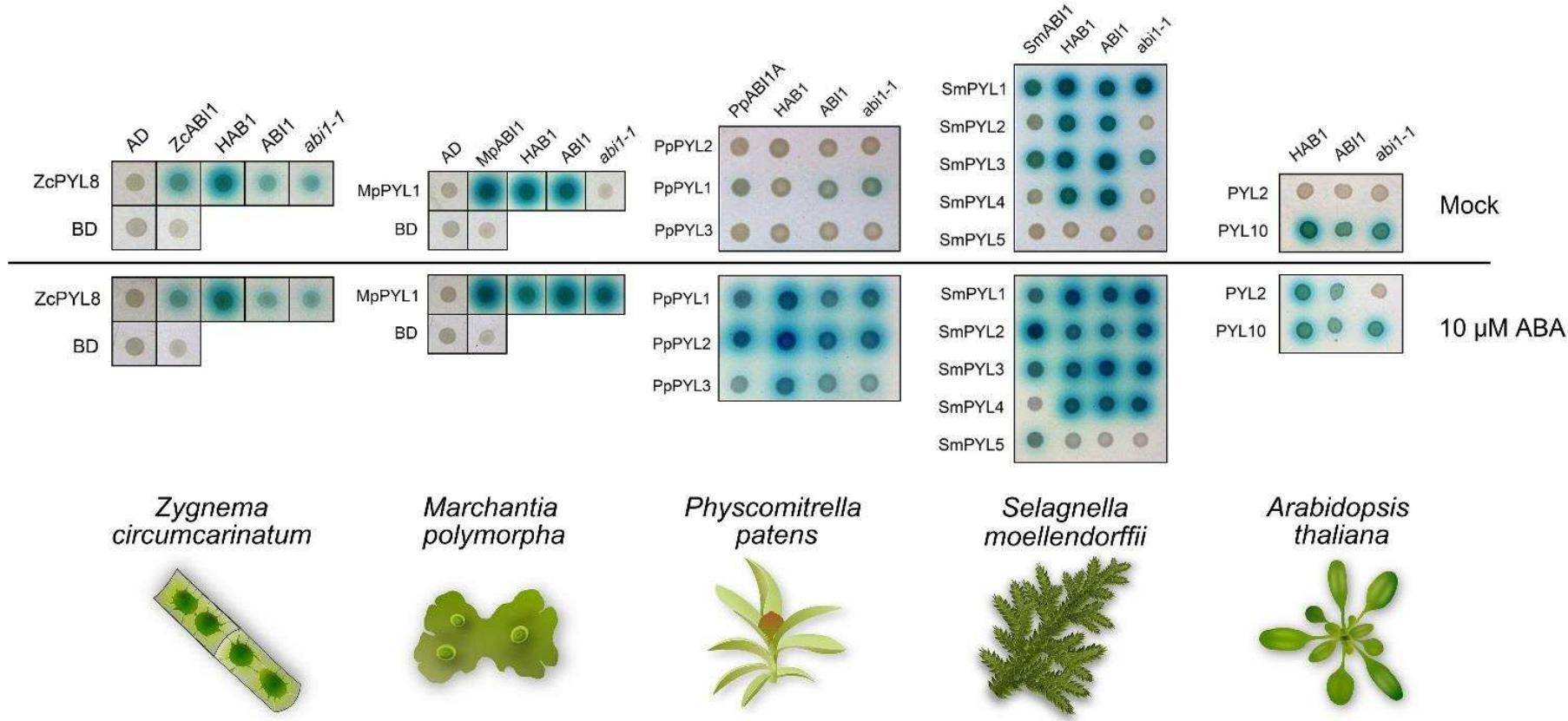
SI Appendix, Fig. S1 Putative ancestral PYR/L proteins from Zgnematophyceae species.

a, Putative PYR/L proteins from various Zygnematophyceae species. **b**, Alignment of 38 residues involved in ABA and type 2C phosphatase (PP2C) binding to orthologous ABA receptors. The gate and latch loop positions are labeled at the bottom. Asterisks indicate residues that interact with ABA [LIG] or PP2C [PPI], according to the structure of PYL2-ABA and PYL2-HAB1 (6). Amino acid sequences are color-coded according to similarities of side-chain characteristics.



SI Appendix, Fig. S2: Unrooted phylogeny of PYL proteins across representative streptophytes.

Maximum likelihood phylogeny of 101 PYL protein sequences from representative land plant genome and streptophyte algal transcriptome data. The tree was computed based on a MAFFT L -INS -I alignment (101 sequences with 1159 columns and 562 patterns, 276 informative sites, 743 constant sites) using the JTT+G4 model, which was chosen according to ModelFinder, and 1000 bootstrap replicates (values ≥ 60 [%] are shown). All meaningful and well-supported clades are labeled; note the clade of Zygnetophycean and tracheophyte PYLs. Subfamilies I, II, and III were denoted based on previous studies (3). Further note that the multiple PYL accessions of *Mesotaenium endlicherianum* probably represent isoforms.



SI Appendix, Fig. S3. ABA receptors from different plant lineages interact with group A PP2Cs in yeast.

PYL-like proteins from *Zygnuma circumcarinatum* (Zc), *Marchantia polymorpha* (Mp), *Physcomitrella patens* (Pp), *Selaginella moellendorffii* (Sm) and *Arabidopsis thaliana* were constructed as binding-domain fusions and tested in a yeast two-hybrid assay for interaction with activation domain-fused *A. thaliana* HAB1, ABI1, ABI1^{G180D} (encoded by the *abi1-1* allele) and endogenous group A PP2C in the presence of Mock (0.1% DMSO) (top) and 10 µM ABA (bottom).

1

2

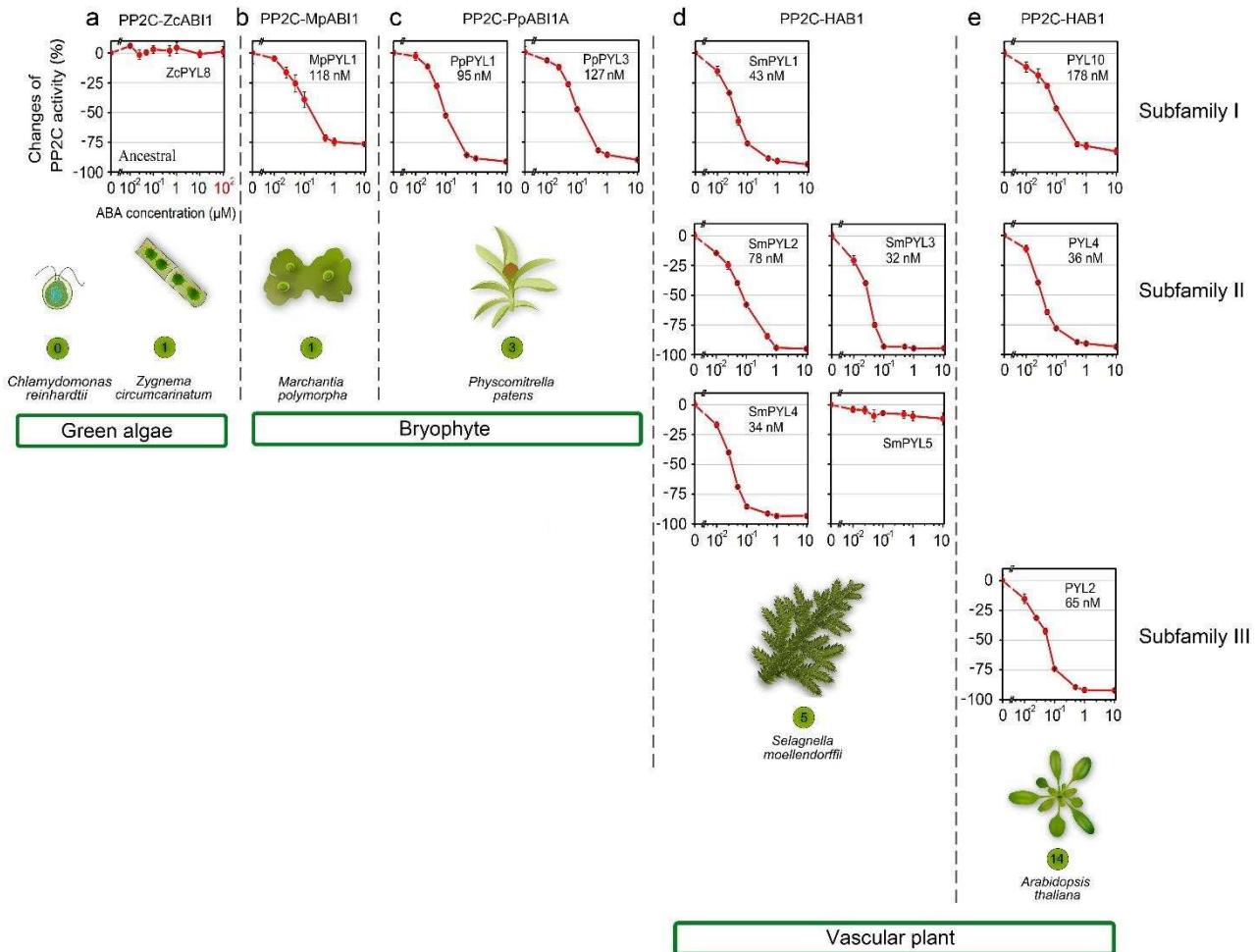
3

4

5

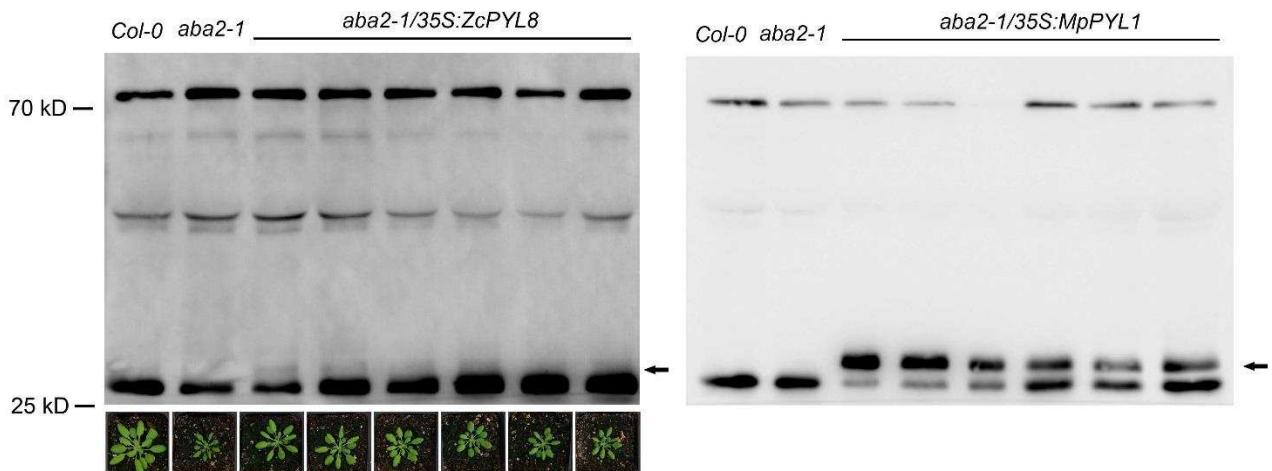
6

7



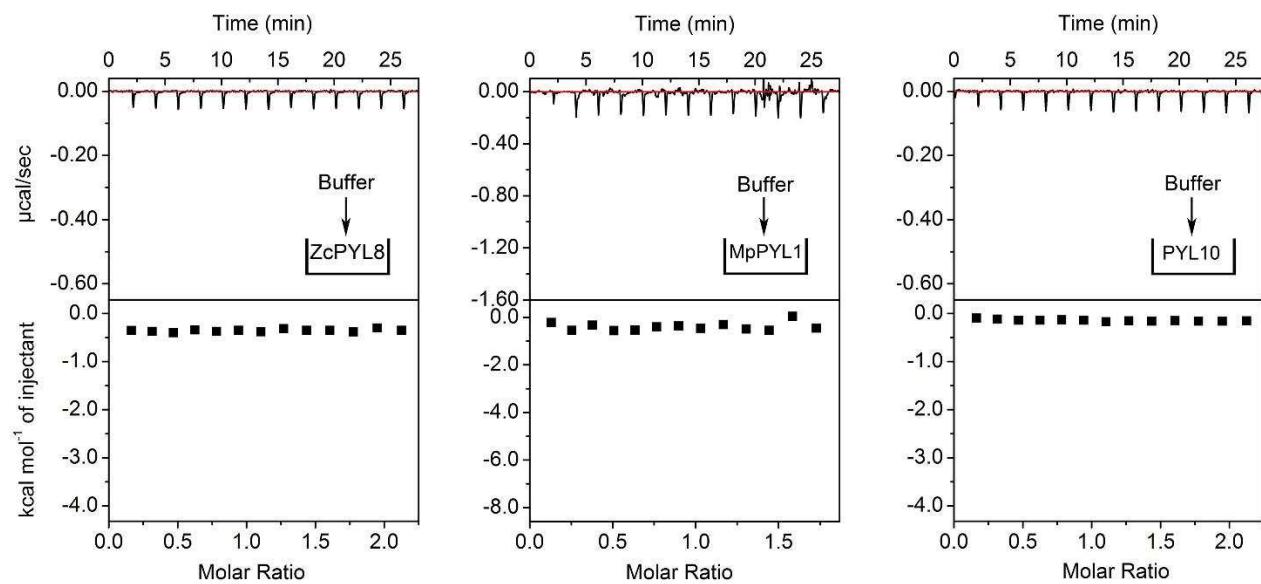
1
2 **SI Appendix, Fig. S4. Land plant PP2C activity is inhibited by PYR/L receptors in an**
3 **ABA dose-dependent manner.**

4 **a**, Recombinant 6×His-ZcABI1 activity was measured in the presence of 6×His-SUMO-
5 ZcPYL8 and ABA. **b**, 6×His-MpABI1 activity was measured in the presence of 6×His-MpPYL1
6 and ABA. **c**, 6×His-PpABI1A activity was measured in the presence of 6×His-PpPYL1 and
7 PpPYL3. **d** and **e**, 6×His-HAB1 activity was measured in the presence of 6×His-SmPYL1-5
8 (d), PYL2, PYL4, PYL10 (e) and ABA. The reaction contained 0.5 μM 6×His-PP2C and 1.5
9 μM recombinant receptor with increasing concentrations of ABA (0, 0.01, 0.025, 0.05, 0.1, 1,
10 10 μM , for ZcPYL8 up to 100 μM). Phosphatase activity was calculated with three technical
11 replicates and error bars indicate SD. Numeric values represent the ABA concentration
12 required to activate ABA receptors to a PP2C inhibition level of 50%. The number of receptors
13 encoded by corresponding species is shown in green circles.
14



1
2 **SI Appendix, Fig. S5. Verification of 35S-driven ZcPYL8 and MpPYL1 protein**
3 **expression by western blot.**

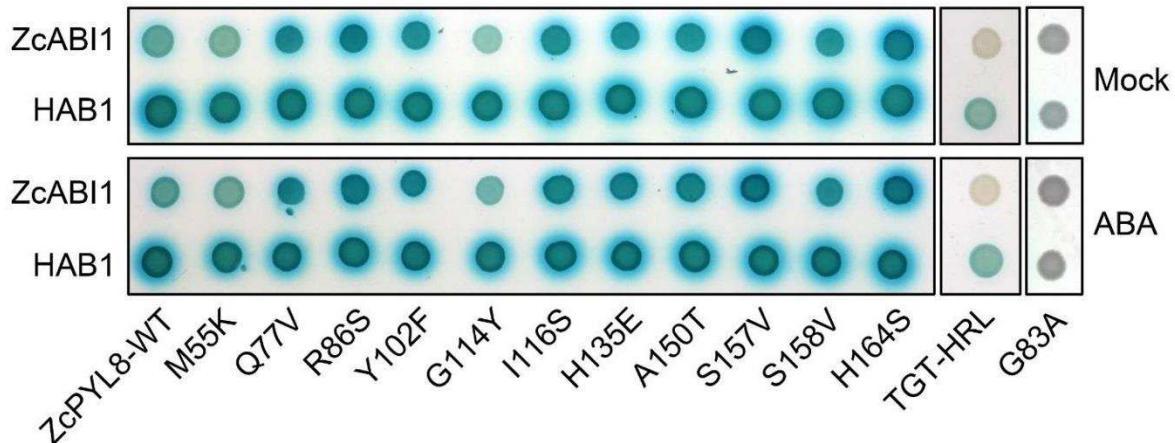
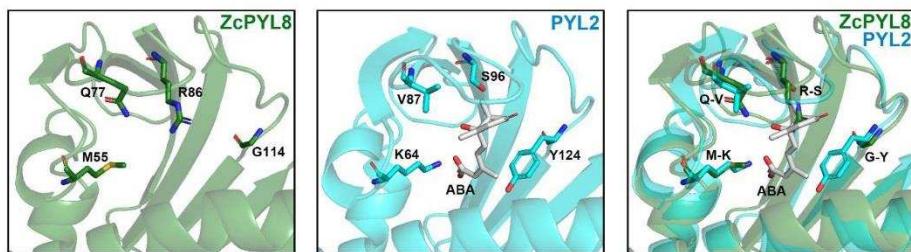
4 Total protein extracts from four-week-old leaves were separated on 15% (ZcPYL8) or 18%
5 (MpPYL1) SDS/PAGE. Proteins were detected by HRP-conjugated streptavidin and
6 recombinant PYL proteins were indicated by black arrow. Phenotypes of the corresponding
7 plants are shown below, indicating that ZcPYL8 protein level correlated with plant phenotype.
8



SI Appendix, Fig. S6. Control isothermal titration calorimetry assay for figure 2.

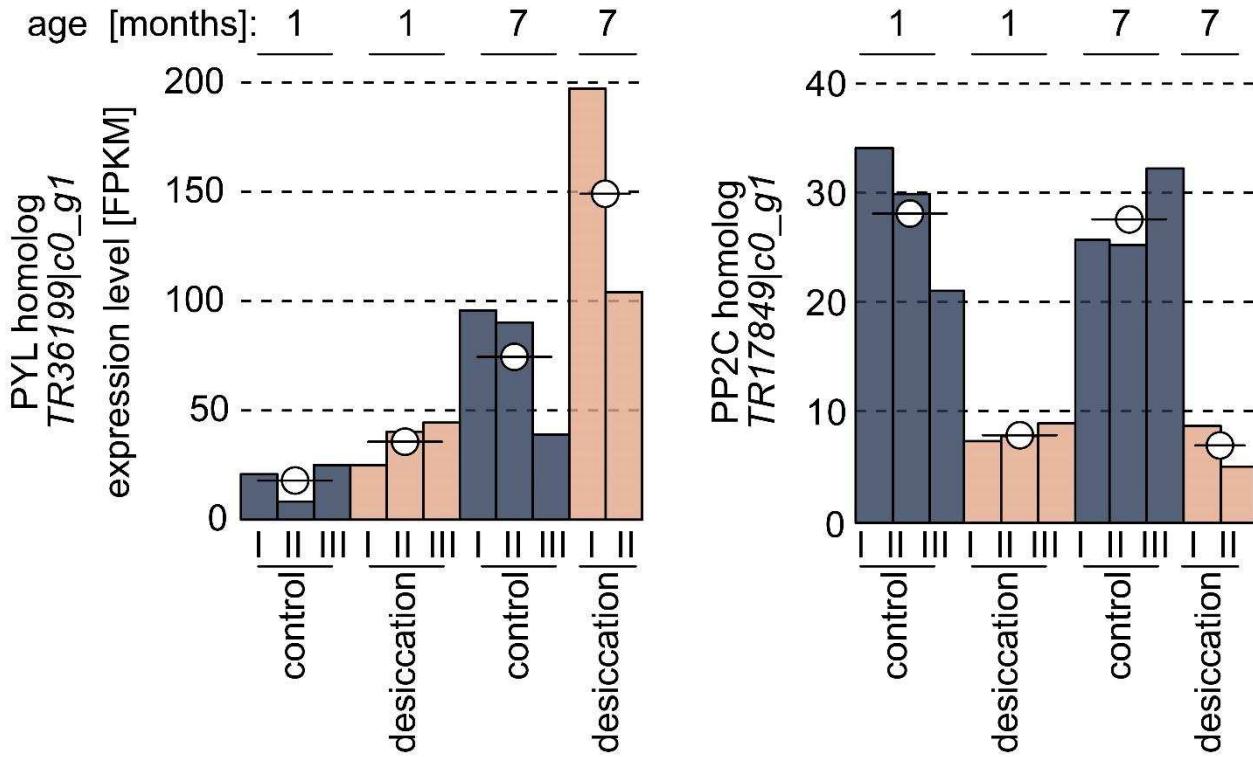
Injections of TIC buffer into 45 μM ZcPYL8 (right), 140 μM MpPYL1 (middle) and 110 μM PYL10 (left), respectively.

1
2
3
4
5



SI Appendix, Fig. S7. Mutation of the residues that differ between land plants and algae could not enhance ABA-induced ZcPYL8-PP2C interaction.

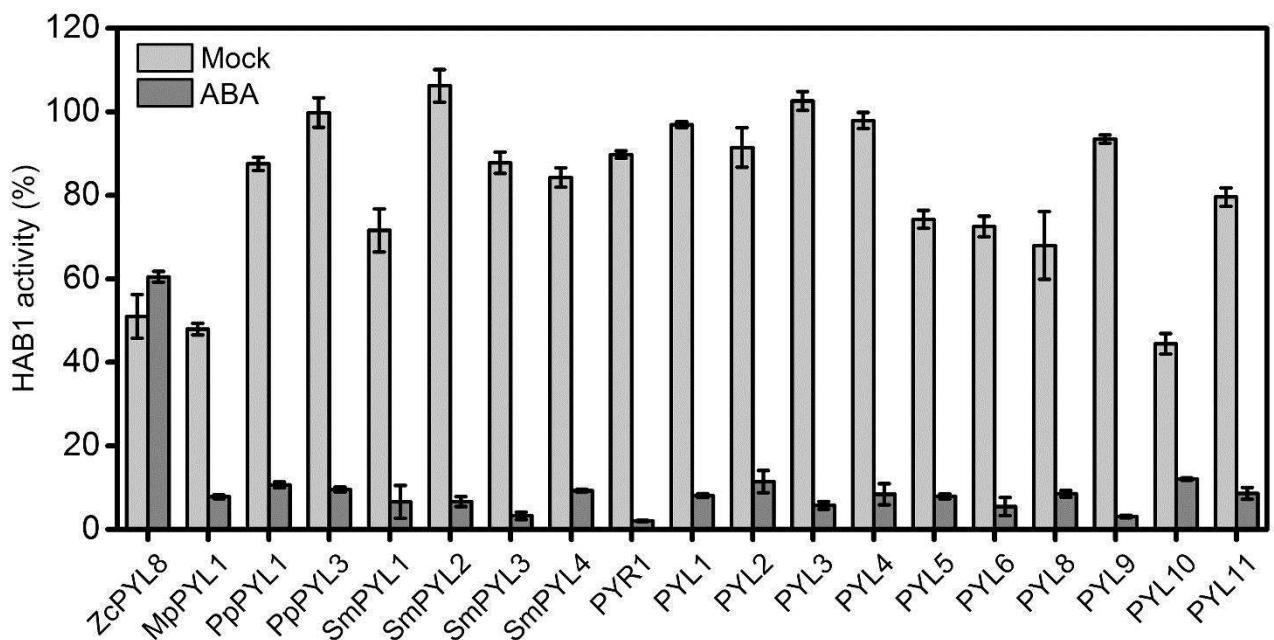
a, Alignment of residues involved in ABA and PP2C binding of orthologous ABA receptors. Boxes indicated the ligand-binding residues that differ between land plants and algae. **b**, Structural comparison of ZcPYL8 and ABA-bound PYL2 (Protein Data Bank ID 3Kb0) indicated differ key amino acids (indicated by red box in **a**) in ligand binding pocket. ZcPYL8 protein structure was computed by I-TASSER. **c**, Interactions of mutant ZcPYL8 with ZcABI1 or HAB1 were tested via yeast two-hybrid assay in the presence of Mock (0.1% DMSO) and 10 μ M ABA.



SI Appendix, Fig. S8. Expression levels of core ABA signaling components in desiccation-stressed *Zygnuma circumcarinatum* SAG 2419.

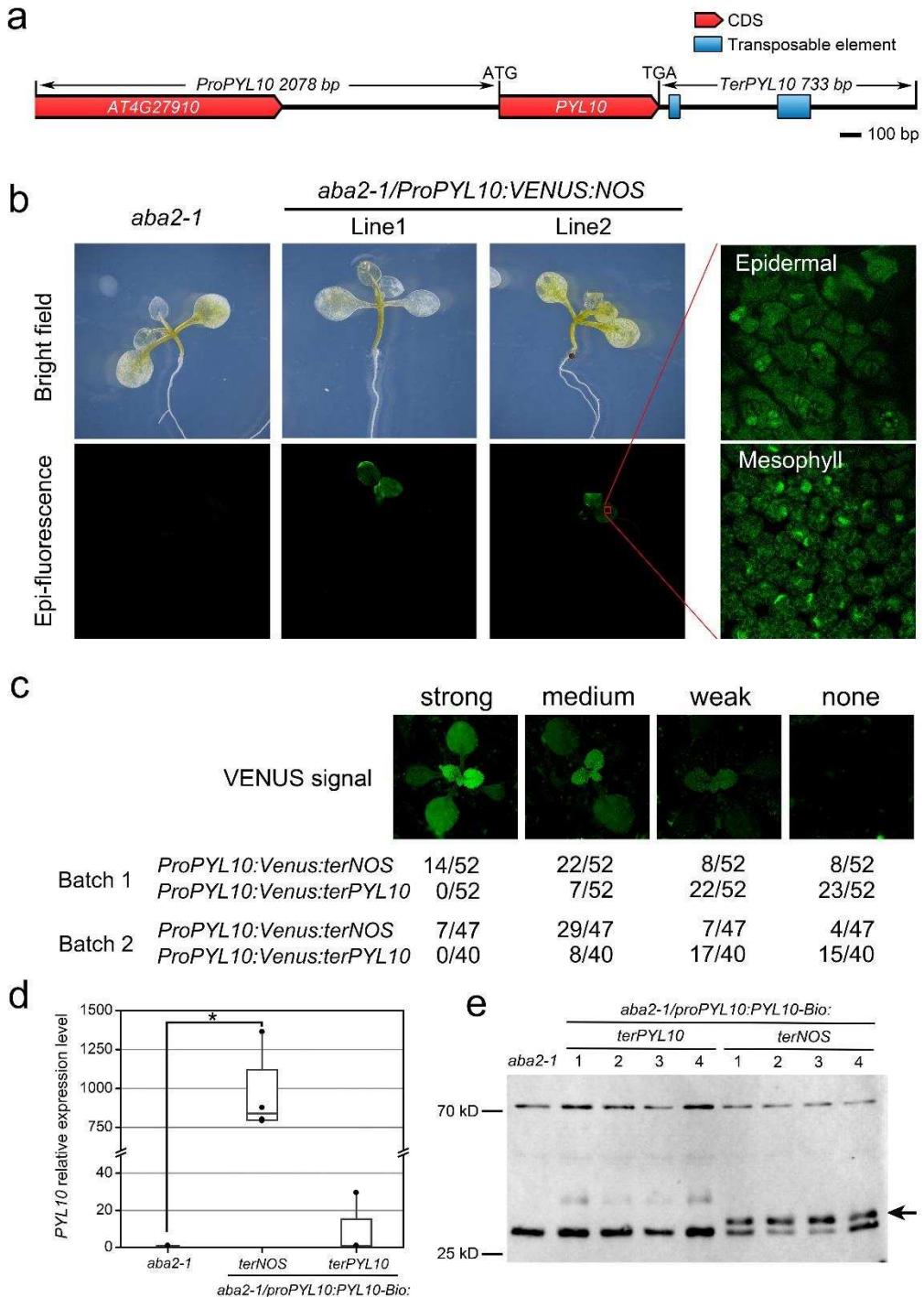
Differential RNAseq data from Rippin et al. (21) on 1-month and 7-month old desiccation-stressed *Zygnuma circumcarinatum* SAG 2419 was obtained; a BLASTx/tBLASTn search was performed to identify homology to proteins encoded by the well-annotated genome of *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Araport11 protein release 2016). Gene expression levels in Fragments Per Kilobase of transcript, per Million mapped reads (FPKM) of transcripts homologous to *A.thaliana* ABA core signaling components were plotted. On the left, a bar graph of the expression profile of the PYL homolog of *Zygnuma circumcarinatum* SAG 2419, TR36199|c0_g1, is shown. TR36199|c0_g1 is 97.8% identical on the amino acid sequence level to ZcPYL8, which is encoded in the transcriptome of *Z. circumcarinatum* strain SAG698-1a used by de Vries et al. (19). On the right, a bar graph of the expression profile of a PP2C (“ZcABI1”) homolog of *Zygnuma circumcarinatum* SAG 2419, TR17849|c0_g1, is shown. TR17849|c0_g1 is 96.8% identical on the amino acid sequence level to ZcABI1, which is encoded in the transcriptome of *Z. circumcarinatum* strain SAG698-1a used by de Vries et al. (19).

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18



SI Appendix, Fig. S9. HAB1 activity inhibition by receptor, with or without ABA.

Recombinant receptors were assayed with HAB1 at the minimal concentration that achieved maximal HAB1 inhibition when saturated with 10 μ M ABA. The HAB1 activities in the same receptor/HAB1 ratio without ABA reflect receptor basal activity. PP2C activity is expressed as percentage of PP2C activity in the absence of receptor. Graphs plot average values are from three technical replicates, and error bars indicate SD.

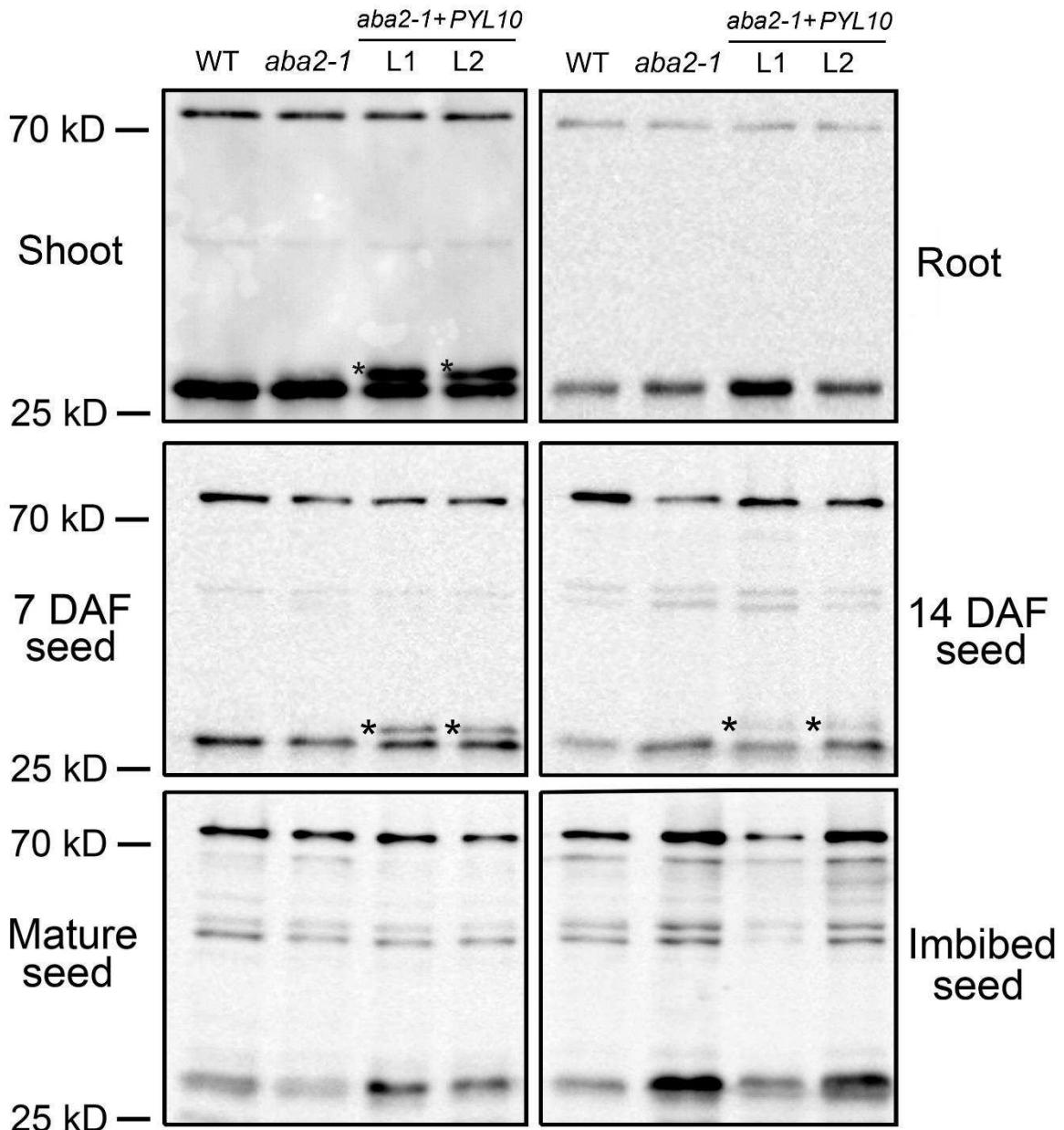


SI Appendix, Fig. S10: PYL10 is transcriptionally suppressed by its 3' sequence.

a, Illustration of *PYL10* gene. 2078 bp upstream of the start codon was used as the *PYL10* promoter. 733 bp downstream of the stop codon was used as the *PYL10* terminator. Red boxes indicate coding sequences, blue boxes indicate predicted transposable elements. **b**, The *PYL10* promoter is active in leaves. Epifluorescence and bright-field images of seedlings of the *aba2-1* background and *ProPYL10:VENUS:NOS* transgenic lines. GFP fluorescence are observed in true leaves of *ProPYL10:VENUS:NOS* plants. **c**, Termination by the 3' end of

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

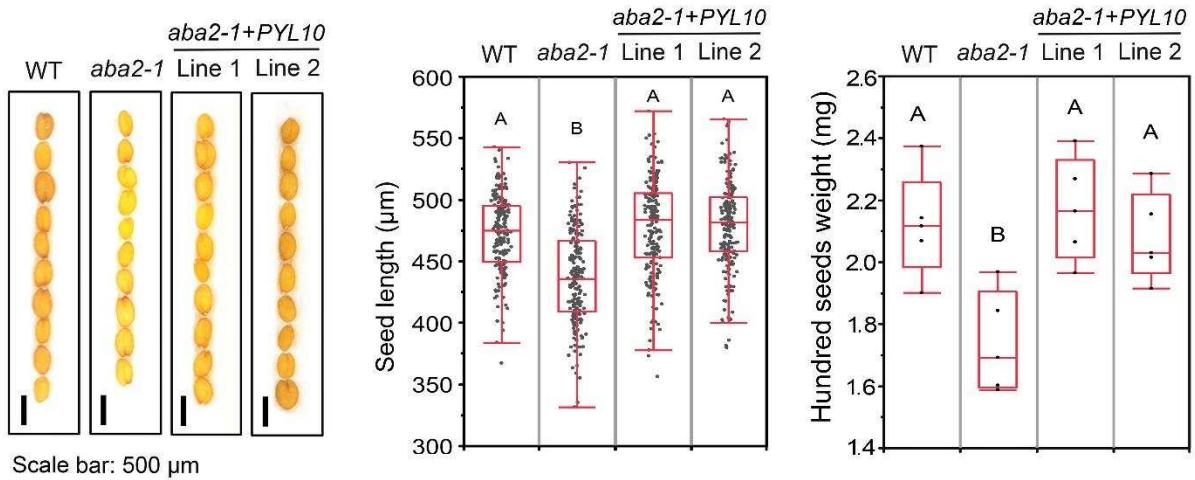
PYL10 results in low expression. The *Arabidopsis aba2-1* mutant was transformed with VENUS driven by the *PYL10* promoter and the *NOS* or *PYL10* terminators. Approximately 100 independent T1 transgenic plants, from two independent seed batches for each construct, were selected based on glufosinate resistance. GFP fluorescence was tested two weeks after germination. Signal strength was classified into four categories (see c top panel). The numerator of each value is the number of plants that showed corresponding GFP expression and the denominator is the total number of plants tested. **d** and **e**, Expression of *PYL10* is suppressed by *PYL10* termination and prevents *PYL10* protein accumulation. HPB-tagged genomic sequences of *PYL10* were expressed in *aba2-1* background under the control of endogenous promoter and *NOS* or *PYL10* terminators. Independent T1 transgenic plants for each construct were selected as described above. Transcript abundance of *PYL10* was measured by qRT-PCR (**d**) and *PYL10* protein was detected by western blot (**e**). Each sample represents a mixture of 10 independent two-week-old T1 seedlings. For qRT-PCR, *PEX4* was used as an internal reference. Asterisk indicates significant difference (Student's t test, $p < 0.01$). For western blot, protein was detected by HRP-conjugated streptavidin. Black arrow indicates expected recombinant *PYL10* protein.



SI Appendix, Fig. S11. Expression of PYL10 and in different tissue.

Protein accumulation of *PYL10* promoter-driven HPB-tagged *PYL10* in *aba2-1* background (*aba2-1+PYL10*) was verified by western blot. Total protein extracts from 10-day-old seedling shoot, roots, seeds 7 or 14 days after flowering (DAF), mature seed and 1-day imbibed seed of each genotype were separated on 15% SDS/PAGE, and then transferred to a nitrocellulose membrane. Protein was detected by HRP-conjugated streptavidin. Expected retention of recombinant protein is labeled with an asterisk.

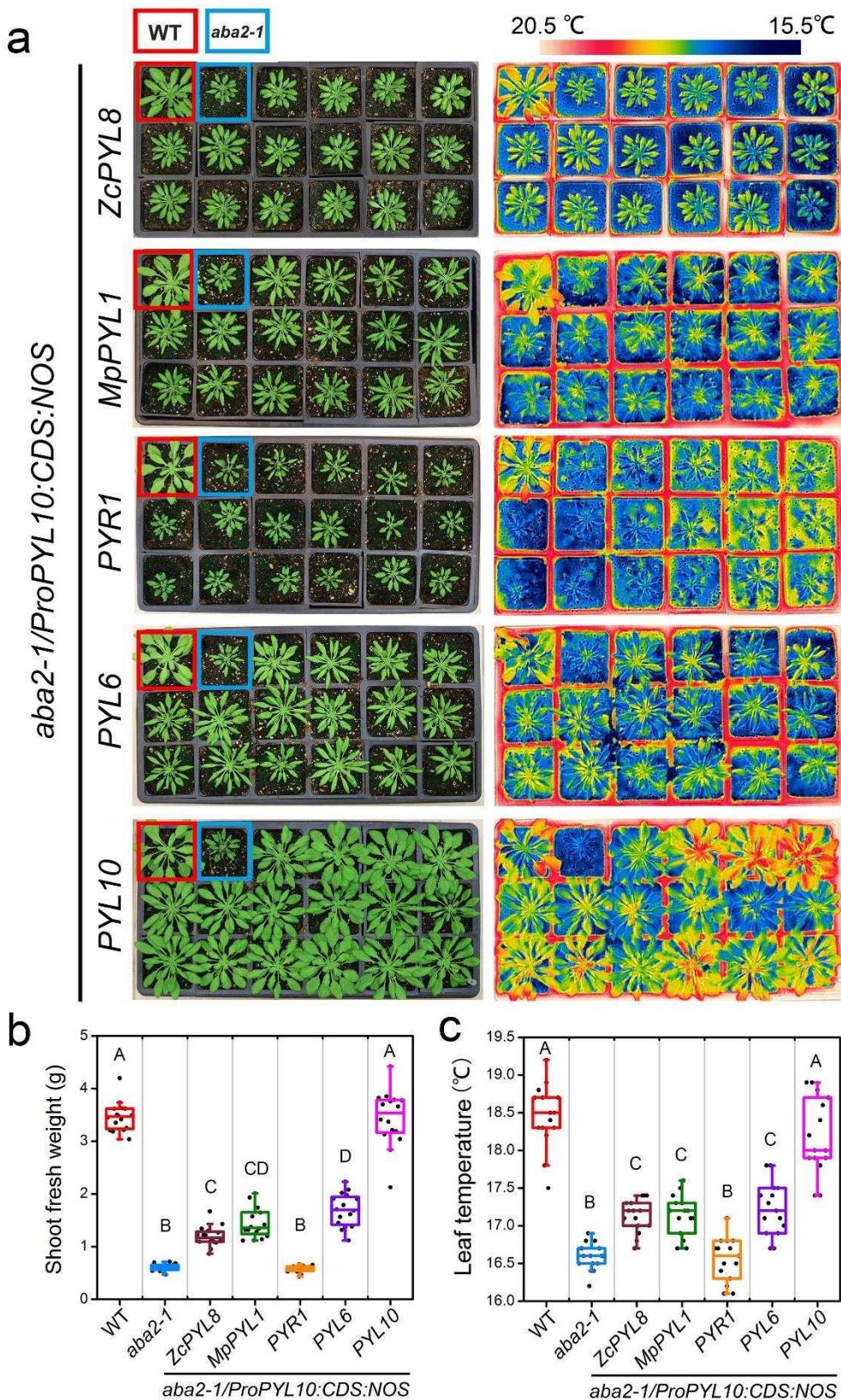
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9



SI Appendix, Fig. S12. PYL10 suppresses ABA deficiency phenotype in seed.

Mature seeds from each genotype were collected and seed length and hundred-seed weight were measured. (Left) Representative images of mature seeds. (Middle) Seed length of each genotype, $n=200$. (Right) Hundred-seed weight of each genotype, $n=5$. Data with significant difference (Tukey HSD test, $df=3$, $p < 0.05$) are indicated by different letters.

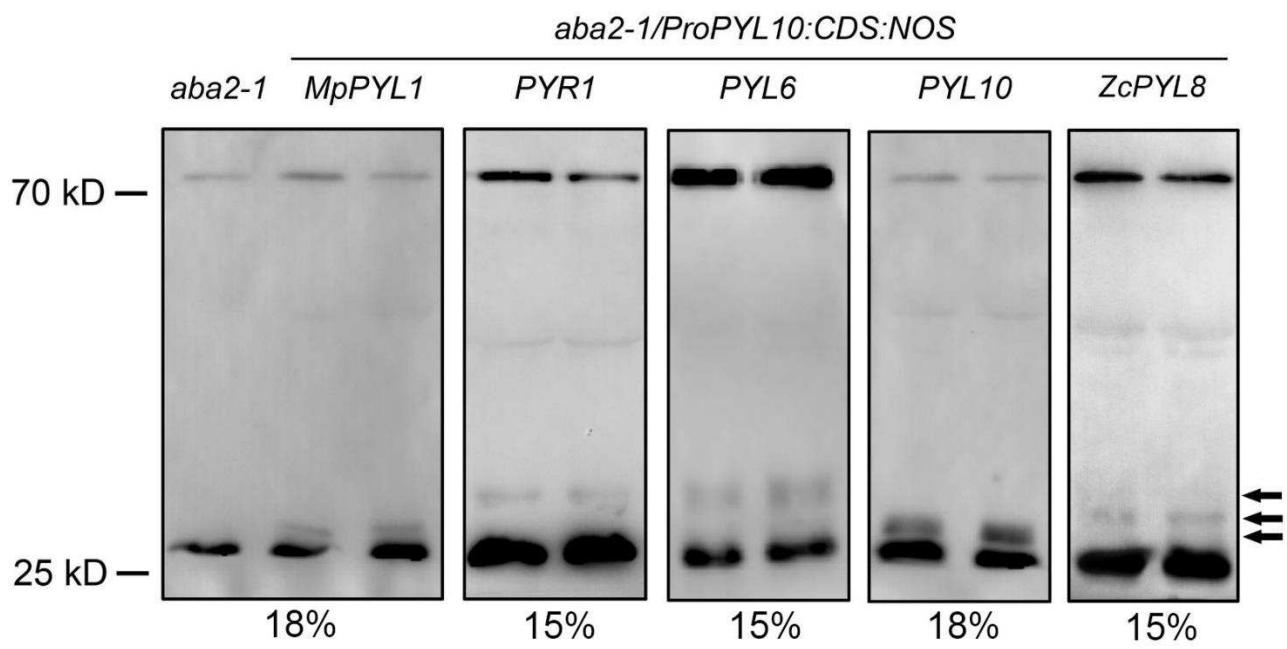
1
2
3
4
5
6
7



SI Appendix, Fig. S13. Receptor with basal activity drives ABA responses *in planta* in the absence of ABA.

Expression of receptors with high basal activity (ZcPYL8, MpPYL1, PYL6 and PYL10) and

low basal receptor gene (PYR1) in the *aba2-1* background. Independent T1 plants were
1 selected based on glufosinate resistance and transplanted to soil alongside with *Col-0* and
2 *aba2-1* (first and second pot of each tray respectively). Suppression of ABA-deficient
3 phenotype was scored visually based on phenotype and thermography (**a**) and quantified (**b**
4 and **c**). Photographs and measurement were performed after 6 weeks of growth under short-
5 day conditions (8/16 day/night). Different letters indicate statistically significant differences
6 (Tukey HSD test, $df=6$, $n=16$, $p<0.01$).
7
8



SI Appendix, Fig. S14. Verification of PYL10 promotor-driven PYL protein expression by western blot.

Expression of PYL10-driven HPB-tagged PYL protein was verified by western blot. Total protein extracts from six-week-old leaves were separated on different concentrations of SDS/PAGE (indicated below). Proteins were detected by HRP-conjugated streptavidin. Expected migration of recombinant proteins is indicated by black arrows.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

SI Appendix, Table 1 List of primers used in the work.

1

Name	Sequence
pET-PYL10-F	CTGGTCCGCGCGGCAGCCATATGAACGGTGACGAAACAAAGA
pET-PYL10-R	CGAGTGCAGGCCAGCTTGTATCTCTTCAGATTCTG
pSUMO-ZcPYL8-F	CCGCGAACAGATGGAGGTGAATGGCTGTGGCAGTTATTCT
pSUMO-ZcPYL8-R	AGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGCTTAGGGAGATAACTGAAATTTGA
pET-PpABI1A-F	AATCTTATTTCAAGGCGCCATGAGTGTGCCGTTTTG
pET-PpABI1A-R	GTCGACGGAGCTGAATTGCTATCTACTACTGGGAAATTCAGA
pACT-ZcABI1-F	ATGGCCATGGAGGCCCGGGGATGGTCGCAACTAACAGGGC
pACT-ZcABI1-R	ATCTACGATTCATAGATCTTACCAATTGTTTACCGATT
pACT-MpABI1-F	ATGGCCATGGAGGCCCGGGGATGGTCGCAACTAACAGGGC
pACT-MpABI1-R	ATCTACGATTCATAGATCTCTACGCCGAAGATCCCCTC
pACT-PpABI1A-F	ATGGCCATGGAGGCCCGGGGATGAGTGTGCCGTTTGC
pACT-PpABI1A-R	ATCTACGATTCATAGATCTCTATCTACTACTGGGAAATTCAGATCC
pACT-SmABI1-F	ATGGCCATGGAGGCCCGGGGATGCCGTATCAGGTACCG
pACT-SmABI1-R	ATCTACGATTCATAGATCTTAGCGGCCACTAGAACT
pBD-ZcPYL8-F	AAAAAAAAGAATTGATGGCTGTGGCAGTTATTCTTC
pBD-ZcPYL8-R	AAAAAAAGTCGACTTAGGGAGATAACTGAAATTTGA
pBD-MpPYL1-F	AAAAAAAAGAATTGATGCTGGCGGGCGCAGAG
pBD-MpPYL1-R	AAAAAAAGTCGACCTATACTTCACTTTAATCTTCAG
pBD-PpPYL1-F	AAAAAAAAGAATTGATGCAGACGAAAGGACGTCAA
pBD-PpPYL1-R	AAAAAAAGTCGACCTACACTGCACAGCCTCTTC
pBD-PpPYL2-F	AAAAAAAAGAATTGATGCAGGAGAAACAGGGGC
pBD-PpPYL2-R	AAAAAAAGTCGACCTACGGTGCCGTGGTTTC
pBD-PpPYL3-F	AAAAAAAAGAATTGATGCAGCAAGTAAGGGGCG
pBD-PpPYL3-R	AAAAAAAGTCGACTCAGGTGCAAATTACAGTACTGGA
pBD-SmPYL1-F	AAAAAAAAGAATTGATGAGCAGCAACGCATTGTCT
pBD-SmPYL1-R	AAAAAAAGTCGACTCACGGACTCCTGGAGGCC
pBD-SmPYL2-F	AAAAAAAAGAATTGATGTACCAACTTACTGACGAAGAGG
pBD-SmPYL2-R	AAAAAAAGTCGACTCATGGCTGGTGAAGCT
pBD-SmPYL3-F	AAAAAAAAGAATTGATGGAAGAGGCAGTGGGTGA
pBD-SmPYL3-R	AAAAAAAGTCGACCTAACCGCGTGGGCAAA
pBD-SmPYL4-F	AAAAAAAAGAATTGATGCTGGCTCTTAGGCCT
pBD-SmPYL4-R	AAAAAAAGTCGACTCACCGATCTGATGCTGTTG
pBD-SmPYL5-F	AAAAAAAAGAATTGATGTTAACGCCAACAGCG
pBD-SmPYL5-R	AAAAAAAGTCGACTCACTGGTTGCTGCTG
ProPYL10-F (Overlap with pGEHPB)	AGTCAGGCCCTAACGAGCTATTCTCACCACACAAGGGG
ProPYL10-R	CGTTATCTTAAATAGCAGCAAT
Venus-F (Overlap with ProPYL10)	TGCTGCTATTAAAGATAACGATGGTGAGCAAGGGCGAG
Venus-R1 (Overlap with TerNOS)	GGAAATTGCCCTCGACCTAGGATCCTACGAGGCCCTTCGTCC
Venus-R2 (Overlap with TerPYL10)	AAGTCACATCTCACGAGGCCCTTCGTC
TerPYL10-F1 (Overlap with Venus)	CTCGTGAAGTCGAGGAGGATGTGACTTGAGAATCTTCATTG
TerPYL10-F2 (Overlap with HPB)	AGGGTAAGTCGAGAAGCTGGATGTGACTTGAGAATCTTCATTG
TerPYL10-R (Overlap with pGEHPB)	CTAGCTTATCGAACCTAACCTGGTTACCTTAAACTAAACCGT
PYL10-qRT-F	GAGCGAGTACATCAAGAAACACC
PYL10-qRT-R	CCTCACAAATTGACCACACCT
PEX4-qRT-F	CAGTCCTCTTAACGCGACTCA
PEX4-qRT-R	GGCGAGGCGTGTACATTT
PYL10-F (Overlap with ProPYL10)	TGCTGCTATTAAAGATAACGATGGTGACGAAACAAAGAAG
PYL10-R (Overlap with HPB)	TAAGGGTACTCGAGGCCGGGAATATCTCTCCATAGATT
ZcPYL8-F1 (Overlap with ProPYL10)	TGCTGCTATTAAAGATAACGATGGCTGTGGCAGTTATT

ZcPYL8-F2 (Overlap with p35S)	ACACGGGGACTCTAGCGCTACCATGGCTGTGGCAGTTATT
ZcPYL8-R (Overlap with HPB)	CAGGAACGTCATAAGGGTACTCGGGAGATAACTTAAATTTGA
MpPYL1-F (Overlap with ProPYL10)	TGCTGCTATTAAAGATAACGATGCTGGCGGGCGCAGAG
MpPYL1-F (Overlap with p35S)	ACACGGGGACTCTAGCGCTACCATGCTGGCGGGCGCAGAG
MpPYL1-R (Overlap with HPB)	TAAGGGTACTCGAGCCCGGGAAACTCACTCTTAATCTCAGGTTG
PYR1-F (Overlap with ProPYL10)	TGCTGCTATTAAAGATAACGATGCCTCGGAGTTAACACCAG
PYR1-R (Overlap with HPB)	TAAGGGTACTCGAGCCCGGGAACGTACCTGAGAACCACTTC
PYL6-F (Overlap with ProPYL10)	TGCTGCTATTAAAGATAACGATGCCAACGTCGATACAGTTTC
PYL6-R (Overlap with HPB)	TAAGGGTACTCGAGCCCGGGAACGAGAATTAGAAGTGTCTCGGC
ZcPYL8 M55K	GATTCAGAAATCCACATGTATGGAAGCCATTATCACAAGCT
ZcPYL8 Q77V	GAGCCCACATCGTCTGGTTCTGTAAAGTCGGTATTCCCGGA
ZcPYL8 G83A	GTCCGGTATTCCCGCATCATGGAGGAGAG
ZcPYL8 R86S	TCCGGTATTCCCGATCATGGAGCAGAGAGCGATTGGACCTCCTT
ZcPYL8 Y102F	ACCAAGAGAAAGTGTGGTTCAGTGTGGATGGCGATACTG
ZcPYL8 I116S	CTGGCACAAAGAATGGATCATCCACAGTATGTGTACGGGAGGCA
ZcPYL8 G114Y	GCGATACTGGCACAAAGAATTATTCAATTACAGTATGTGTACGGGA
ZcPYL8 H135E	GGCTAACGCCTGTGCAGGAGTGTACCTCTACCTCCACCC
ZcPYL8 A150T	CTGGAAGCACCAAAGACGATACCCTCACATTCAATTCTCCCTCTC
ZcPYL8 S157V	CCCTCACATTCAATTCTTCGTCCTCGCCTGGTCCTCCGA
ZcPYL8 S158V	TCACATTCAATTCTTCGCTCGCCTGGTCCTCCGACATC
ZcPYL8 H164S	CCTCTGCCTGGCCTCCGAAGCCTGCCACATATGCGGAGAG
ZcPYL8 TGT-HRL	GATGGGTGTACACTGTTGGATGGCGATCATCGCTAAAGAATGGATCAATTACAGTATGTGTAC

1
2

SI Appendix, Table 2. List of sequences synthesized in this work.

1

Name	Sequence
ZcPYL8	ATGGCTGTGGCAGTTATTCTTCTGCAAGCTTGAGTCAGTGCCTCAAGTCAGTAGA GAGGGAGGGTGGTATGCAGTATTCTGGAAGAGAGGGATCCATGCTCTGCGATGCTGTTGGAG TATCCTCGTGTATTCAAGAAATCCACATGTATGGATGCCATTATCACAGCTGTGAGATGACTG GAGAAGTGGAAAGGGGAGCCATCGTCTGGTTCTCAAAAGTCGGTATTCCGGATCATGGA GGAGAGAGCGATTGGACCTCCTGATGACCAAGAGAAAAGTGTGAGGTACACTGTTGTTGGATG GCGATACTGGCACAAAGAACATGGATCAATTACAGTATGTGTACGGGAGGCAGTATATGAAGGAA GGCTAACAGCCTGTGCAGCACTGTTACCTCTACCTCCACCCCCCTGGAAGCACCAAAGACGA TGCCTCACATTCTTCTCTCGCCTGGTCTCGACATCTGCCACATATGCGGAGAG TCTGGCTCTGGAGATGGCAGTCATCAAAATTCAAGTTATCTCCCTAA
ZcABI1(Del 1-247)	ATGGTCGCAACTAACAGGGCAGAGCTCCAATAGTAAGTATATGTAATAGTGGAAAGAATAGATG GGACTTTGCTTTGACGACTGTCCTCACATGGGACTCTCTCTTGTGGTGCCTCGCGCTGAA ATGGAGGATGCTGTCGAATTATTCCGTCTTGCCTGGTCCATGTTGAAAGTGCCTGGT GTCAAGCAGCTGGAGGAGAAATAGGTGACTGTCAGATGCACTTTTGCACTTACGATGGTC ACGGTGGCTGTCAGGCTGCGAATTACTGTGCAAGAGAGACTCCACAATGTTAGCTCACGAGC TAAAACAATGTTGGCAAAAGCTTCACCCTGCACGAAAAAATGCATGAAAAAACACTTATGGA GAATCATTGGCGTACGGCTATGAGGAATTCTTTTACGAATGGATGCTGAGATTAGTGGCCATT GTTATGGAAGCTCCGGTTCTTCTGTCAGAGACAAAATAGTTGCTCACGAAACCCCTGCTCCA GAAACGGTTGGTCTACTTCAGTTGTGGCAGTTGTGGAGTTCTCAAATTATTGTGGGAAATG CGGGTATTACGAGCTGTTGTCAAGAGGAGGAAAGGCTATTCTCTCTATTGATCATAA GCCGGAACCGCAGGGATGAAATGAAGAGAGTGGAACAGGCAGGAGGACGAGTTATTCTGG AATGGATATCGGGTCTTGGAGTTAGCCATGTCAAGGGCTATCGCGACAGATATTAAAACC TTATGTTATTCTGAGCCTGAGGTGACATTACGAAAGAACGGGAGAGGACGAGTGCATTATT TTGGCAAGTGTGGCTGTGGAGTTATCAAATGATGTCGATGTGAAATTGCTCGATG TTTATCTAAACAATACGGAGGAAGCATAGGACGAGTGGATCCGGCAATTGACTTATCGACT GCAGAGGTAGAGGAAGTCGAGGGACCCGGGGCGGCATTGCTCGACAGTACTGACGAAACT TGCTCTAGCGCGCGTAGTGGAGACAATATAAGTGTGTCGTGGTCGATCTAAAGCAAAGCAC GCGAAATCATTGCCATTGGAAAAAACGAATCGTAAAAACGAATTGGTAA
MpPYL1 (Optimized)	CTGGTGC CGCGCG CAGCCATATGCTGGCGGCGCAGAGAGAGACTTGGTGAAGAGACCT GGTGGAAAGACACCATAATCAGGAGATTCTGAACATCAGTGC GGTCTACCTTATACCAGGAG ATAGATGCGCCAGTAGAGTTGGTCTGGTCGATAGTAAGACGTTGACCGCCTCAGTCTATA AGCACTTCTGCA GTCTAGTCCCTGCTGATTGGAGAAGGAGCACCGGGTCCGTGCGTAAG TGAGACTTGTCTGGACTGCCAGCTACCAACAGTATCGAGCGTCTGAGGTGCTGATGACGC TAACCACGTGTCATCATTCCCGTTCTGGAGGAGGTACCGTCTGAAGAATTATTGGAGCGTT ACCACTGTCATGAGCGTGTCTCAATGGGAGACGCAAACCATGGTAATAGAATCTTATGTAG TGGACGTACCTGAAGGTAACTCAAAGAACACTATGGTCTTGTGATACCTGTACGCTGT AACCTTAAGTCACTGACCACGGTGGCAGAACAAACAGTCCTCAGACTACTACGAGCAACCTG AAGATTAAGAGTGAAGTATAGCAAGCTTGC GGCGCACTCG
MpABI1(Del 1-244bp)	ATGATTCCCAGCAGCAGCGGTAGTGTGAACGTTATTGACGATGGCACTGTCCTCCTCATGGGC TTGTATCTGTTGTGGCCGACGTCGAGAGAGATGGAGGATGCA GTTGCCGCTGTTCTGCGTTTT ATCATGCCATGCGATGTCACTGGTTGTAATTGCCAGAGAATTATGGAGTTCATGCCCTTAC ACTTCTTGGAGTATGATGGACATGGAGGCTCTCAGGCAGCTGTTGAGGATGGCAGATCGTCTC CATCATGCCCTGCA GAGGAAATGAAGACTGTTGAACCTGGAAACAGTAGGATGGATG TCTCAGGGTAACTGGGATCTCAATGGCGGAAGGCCATGTCAGCCTGCTCCTCCGGATGGATG CGGAGGTTGGAGGTGCTGGAAAGTTGGACAAGCTGATAGTGAAGCTGGAAAGTCCAAG TGCTCAACAGATGCAATCGCTCCAGAGACAGTGGCTGACTGCTGTTGTGGCTGATTGGT CTTCTCAGATTATCGTCGCAATTGCGGAGATTACCGGCTGTTCTCACGTGGTGGAGAGC AATTGCACTTCAAAGATCACAAGCCTGAACCGCAAGACGAGATGGCTAGAGTGGAGGCTG CGGGCGGTGCGGGTATCTTGGAACGGTACCGTGTGGTACTCGCTATGTCGAGGGC CATCGGTGATAGATATCTCAAGCCCTCGTATGCGGAGCCAGAGGTCACTGACCGTGC TCGGAAGATGATGAATGTTGATCTGGCTAGTGTGATGGTTGTGGATGTTATCGAACGAACT GGTTGCGAAATAGCGCGCAAGTGTGCTGATTGGTCGAAATAGTGTGATCTGCATTGAGTGTG

	CGTTCTGGGTTGGACGAAGAACAGGGGAGTCCCCTGCCTCTGTGGCGGCTGCACTTCTTACC AAGCTCGCCCTAGCACGAGGCAGTAGTGACAACATTAGTAGTTGACTTAACGACGG GATCTTCGGCGTAG
PpPYL1	ATGCAGACGAAAGGACGTCAAGCTGATTCCAGACCCCTGCTAGAGGGACAGCAGGATCTGATA TGCCGGTTCACAGACATGAACCTCCAGCCACACCAGTCGGCTCCATCCTCTGCAGCTGATCA AGGCAGCTGTGGAGACTGTGTGGCGGGCTAGAACGCTTGCACAAGCCGCAAGTATAACAAGC GCTTATCCAGACTTGTAAGGAAATTATTGAAGGCAGATGGCGGGGGGGTAGCATCCGTGAGGTGC GCTTAGTGTCTAGTATTCCGGCAACATCGAGTATTGAGAGGCTAGAGATCCTGGACGATGAGGA ACACATCATCAGTTCAAGGGTTGGGAGGAGGCCACAGGTTGCAAAACTACTGGTCTGTAC GTCTTACACTCTCACGAGATTGATGGGAGATGGAACTCTAGTTCTGGAGTCTTGTAG ACATTCCCTGAAGGTAACACCAGGGAGGAGACTCACATGTTGTGGACACAGTTGTCGTTGTA ACTTGAAGCAGCTTGCCAGGTTCAAGAGCACAGATTTCACAGAGCTGAGAGCAAAGAAC TATCCGCAGCGTCCTTGTCACTAGGCAGTAAAGAGGAAGCTGTGCATGCCAGGAAGAAGGAG GCTGTGCAAGTGTAG
PpPYL2	ATGATGCAGGAGAAACAGGGCGGCCGATTCCAGTTCTGTGGAAGGGCAGCAGGATCT GATATGCCGGTTCACAAGCAGCAGATTGCTTCCGCACCAGTCGGCTCCATCTGTTGCAGCAG ATCAAGGCGCCTGTGCAGACCGTGTGGTTGATTGTGAGGAGGTTGACGAGCCGAGGTGTAC AAGCGGTTCAATTCAAGGGTGTGACATCGTTGAAGGCAGTGGCGTAGTGGGAGCATCCGGGA GGTCAATTAGTTCTAGCATTCCGCCACATCTAGCATCGAGAGGCTGAAATTCTGGACGAT GAGGAGCATATCATCAGCTTCAGGGTCTGGGAGGAGGCCATAGGTTGCAAAATTATTGGTCTG TGACTTCTTGACAGACATGAGATTCAAGGGCAGATGGAACTCTAGTGTGGAGTCTTATGT TGTGGATATTCCAGATGGAACACAAGAGAGGAGACGCATACATTGTGGACACAGTCGTGAG ATGCAATTGAAAGCACTTGCTCAAGTCTGAGCAGAACATTGCTGAACCTCCAACGAGAAA CCAGCGGCACCGTAG
PpPYL3 (Del 1-267)	ATGATGCAGCAAGTAAAGGGCGGCAGGATTCCAGAGGCTGCTGGAGGCGCAGCAGGATCT AATATGCGTACCATACTCACGAGCTGAAGGCTCACCAGTCGGGAGCATCCTGCTGCAACAG ATTAAGGTGCCGTTGCCGATCGTGTGGCGATTGTGCGCAGTTGACAAGCCTCAGGTCTACA AACGTTTATTCAAACCTGCAAGATCACTGAAGGCAGTGGCGTGGGAAGCATCCGGGAGG TCCATCTGGTCTCCAGTGTCCAGGCCACTTGCACTATTGAACGCCCTGAGATTGGATGAG AAACATATCATTAGCTTCGGGTCTGGCGGGGCCACCGTTGCAAGAACTACTCTCCGTGT CATCTCTGACGAGCTGAAGTTGAAGGCCACCCCTGCACTCTGCTCTGGAGTCGTATATGTA GATATTCCGATGGAACACTCGCAGGGAGACGCATATGTTGTGGACTGTGGTCGCTGCA ATTGAAATCTTGGCTCAGATTGGAGCAGCAGTATAACAAGGATTGTTGCAACAGAAACA GCATGACCAGCAGCAGATGTATCAGCAGAGACACCCGCCACTCCCTATTCCATTACCGATA AAAATATGGAAGGTCCAGTACTGTAATTGACCTGA
SmPYL1	CTGGTGC CGCGCGCAGCCATATGAGCAGCAACGCATTGTCTAGGGAGGAGGCACATATGG CGCTACCACAAGCAGCAGATGCAAGAGTATCAGTGTGGATCCATCCTCATCAAACGCATCAATG CGCCCGTGCAGCTGGTGTGGCGCTCGTCCGGAGATTGACCAACCGCAAGGCTACAAGAGAT TCATCCAGAGCTGCACTGTGAATGGCGATGGCAAAGTCGGGAGCATCGAAACGTGAATGTGG TAACGGGGCTTCAGCCACGAGCAGCACCGAGAGGCTGGAGATCCTGGACGAGGAGGAGCA CATCTTAGTTACCGGATCCTGGAGGAGATCATGACTCAAGAATTACTGGTCTATAATACGCT CCACTCCGAGATGATCAACGGTAGGCCGGACATTGGCGATCGAGTCGTACGTTGTGGACAC TCCCAGGGAACAGTAAGGAGGACACATGTTCTCGTGGAGACAGTGTACAGTCACCT CAAATATTGGCGGATGTGCGGAGAGGCTCGCTGAGACAAGCGTCAGCACCTAACTTT GGCCTCCAGGAGTCCGTGACAAGCTGCGGCCGACTCG
SmPYL2 (Optimized)	CTGGTGC CGCGCGCAGCCATATGGAAGAGGCAGTGGGTGAACACCACACATGAGCCGGC CTCCAACGAGTGTGTTCGGTTAGTACAGGAGGTACGTGCTCTGTAGAGGTTGTCTGGTCA GTGGTACGGCGCTCGACCAGCCACAGTGTCTATAAGCGGTTCATCGGTCTGCTCAACACAGG GAGATTAAAGGTAGGCTCAACTCGCAGAGATTACTGTTGTGCGGGCTTCTGCAACTACGTC AAAAGAGCAGTTAGAGATCTTAGATGAGGATAAACACACATCTTCAATTCAAAGTGTGGACGGT GACCATCGTCTCGGAATTACCGTAGCATCACTACTCTGCATGAGACTTAGTCCAAGATCGCC TGGTACACTGGTACGGAGTCCTATGTCGAGATCCCTGACGGGAACACCCCGAGGACAC TCTTACTTTACTAATACTGTGGTCAAGCTGTAACCTCAATCGTGGCGTACTGTGAAAGACT TTGCCCAACGCGGTTAGCAAGCTGCGGCCGACTCG

SmPYL3 (Optimized)	CTGGTGCCGCGCGCAGCCATATGTACCAACTTACTGACGAAGAGGTCGAGAAGTTGCCAGAA GAGGTTGGAAATATCATAGAGCTCGTCGGCGGTGCCGGATTGCCCTAACGAATGCTGC TCTGTACTGATTCAACGTGTGCGTGCCTTACCGGTTGTCTGGTCAGTCGTCGCTCGA CAAGCCGAGCTGTATAAGAATTATACGCTCTGCTCATTAAAGGTGACGAATTAAAGAGTGG GATGTACGCGAAGTAACCGTAGTATCTGGACTGCCAGCACGAGTAGTACGGAGAGATTAG AGATATTAGACGATGACAAACATGTGCTTCCCGTAGTTGGAGGGGACCACCGCTTAAT AATTATCGCTCCGTAACATCACTGCACGAGTTGATGTAGAAGGAGCGAAAGGTACGTTAGTGG TCGAGTCTTACGTGGTAGATGTACCGCCCGAAACACAAGACAGGATAACATGTCTTTACAGA TACCGTAGTTCGTTGCAATCTGCAATCCCTGGCACACATGACTGAAAAATTAGCGGTGGCCTGT GCTTCTGAACAACATGCCAGCTCACCAAGGCCAGATGACAAGCTTGCAGGCCACTCG
SmPYL4 (Optimized)	CTGGTGCCGCGCGCAGCCATATGCTGGTCTTCTTGGCGCTTGTACCGGATCAGGACGAG GCCGCCGGTTGGTCGGCTCGTCACGTTACCTGCCATGCCCTCGGGCACACGCAGT GTTCGAATGTTGACGACAGTGGATACAGGCACCTGTTGCTGTAGTTGGCTGTTGACGTCG GTTTGAATTCTCCCCAACGCTATAAGTGTCTCATCCGTGGTTCGTTGCGTGGAGGGGATGGA GTATCCGTAGGCAGCACTCGGACGTTACGGTAGTGGATTGCCGCTAGTTGACGACC GAACGGCTTGAGATATTAGACGATCAACAGCATGTATTGTCATTCCGCGTGTAGGAGGGAAAC ACAGACTTAAGAACTACACTTCGGTCACATCGCTGCACGCAACACCAGGCCAGAGACG CGACGATACTCCTTAATCATATGTGGTAGATGTGCCGGGGAAACAGCAAAGAAGAAACCT TGACTTTACTGATACTGGTTGTTGTTGAAATCTCAGAGCCTGGCAAAAGTATGCAACACTTA GCCCTCAACAAACAACAGCATCAGGATCGGTGACAAGCTTGCAGGCCACTCG
SmPYL5 (Optimized)	CTGGTGCCGCGCGCAGCCATATGTTAACGCCAACAGCCTTACAATTAGACGAATCGCGTT GGCGCTTACACAGTGTCTTGAGCGCGGACAACCGCACCGACTGTGCAAACACTTGCTTCAGA GAATAGACGCACCCGTATCTGCCGTTGGCTATGTTGCGGCGTTTGACACGCCAGGCATA CAAGAGATTCTGTAAGGCATGCGTCATGCCCTGGAGACGGCTCCAGTGTGCGGGAGTCTCG GAATATCACTCTGATCTGGATTGCTGCAATCATGTTGACCGAGCGCTTAGAGATTGGATG ACGAGCATCATATAGTCTCCTTCGTTGCGGCGAGCATGTTACGCAACTACGCTTCG GTCACGTCATTGCGATGAGAAAGTGGTAACAGTAGTTATGGAGTCATCGTCGATGCTCTG AAGGAAACACTCGTAAGATACGCGGTTTTACTGACACGGTGGTCAGATGTAACCTGCAATC TTAGCGAAAATCTGCCAACAGCAACTTACAGGAGCAACGTCGGTGTCAAGCAACACAGCA GCAGCAACCAAGAGTACAAGCTTGCAGGCCACTCG
SmABI1	ATGGCTTTGGGCACTGCTTGCAACAGGAGCACCCGCTGCATGCCAGCGATCGTGTCCCC CGCATGGAGCCGTATTATGTGGCAGGCAGGGAGATGGAGGATGCCGTCGCGGTAGTGC CCTCTTTATGACGGTGCCTGCGGTACTGTTGGAGGCTGCGAGTGTAAAGGTGCCACGCTGC CTTCCGCGGACGTTGGCATGTCGCGTTACACTTCTCGGAGTCTATGACGCCATGGCGGACC TCAGGTTGCTGGCTCTGCAAGGAGCAAATGCATCGCTCTCGAGGAAGAGTTAGTGGCGT TTTGCCAGGCATGGGTGACAGAGAGCTGGAGGCACATCTCAGAGAGCAATGGTGGCGAGCT TTCTGAAAGTGGATGCGCAGGTGGGAGGCTCTCGAGGGCAATTGAGTCGTCAGCTTC CATTGATAGCTCCGAGACAGTCGGCTGACTGCTGTTGAGCGTACTGGGACCAAACCGGAT CATCGTCGCAACTGTGGTACTCGAGGGCGCTTTCGAGAGGGGGCGAGCCATTCT CTCCGTGGACCACAAACAGATCGAGAGGAGCGAGCTGGCCGAGTTGAGGCTGCCGGAGGG AGGGTGTGTTGGAGCGTTATAAGTCTTAGGAGTTCTGGCAATGTCGAGAGCAATTGGT GATAGATACTCAAGCGTTATAATCCCAGAGCCGACGTTACTGTACAGAGAGAAGTTCGG AGGACGAGTGCCTGATATTGGCCAGCGACGGCCTGTTGAGTCGTCACCAACGAGATGGCG TGTGACATTGACGGAAAGTGTCTCGTTAGGCATCGAGCTGGCAGGGCGAGAGTGC AGACATGGCTGCTGGATTACTGACCAAGGTGCGATTGCCAACAGGAGCAGCACTGACAACATCAG TGTGGTGGTGGATCTAAGCTCATGCCAGGTGA

SI Appendix, Table 3. List of accession number of all genes analyzed in this work.

1

Gene	Accession number
ZcPYL8	GFYA01000355.1
ZcABI1	GFYA01001477.1
MpPYL1	Mapoly0030s0080.1
MpABI1	GQ504039.1
PpPYL1	Pp3c26_15240V3.1
PpPYL2	Pp3c13_7110V3.1
PpPYL3	Pp3c7_26290V3.1
PpABI1A	Pp3c11_18330V3.1
SmPYL1	XM_002982810
SmPYL2	XM_002968967
SmPYL3	XM_002974543
SmPYL4	XM_002992701
SmPYL5	XM_024686983
SmABI1	XM_002980941
PYR1	AT4G17870
PYL1	AT5G46790
PYL2	AT2G26040
PYL3	AT1G73000
PYL4	AT2G38310
PYL5	AT5G05440
PYL6	AT2G40330
PYL8	AT5G53160
PYL9	AT1G01360
PYL10	AT4G27920
PYL11	AT5G45860
HAB1	AT1G72770
ABI1	AT4G26080
PEX4	AT5G25760

2