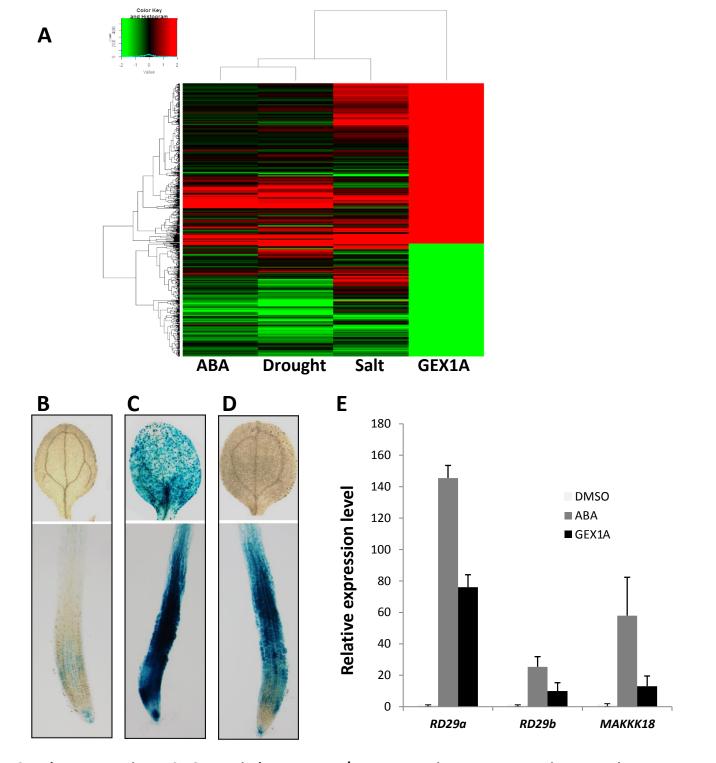
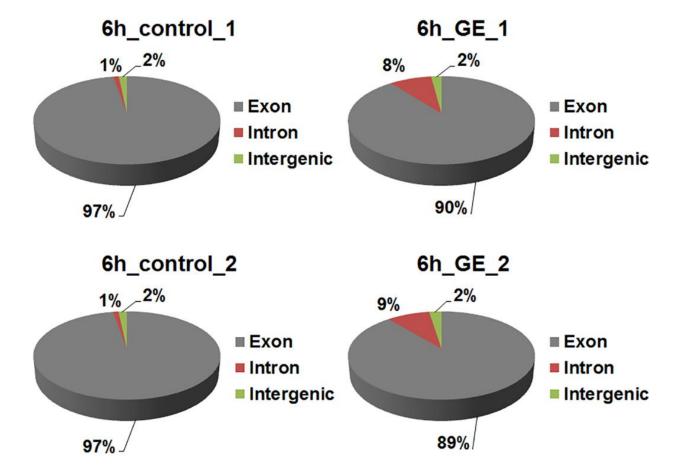


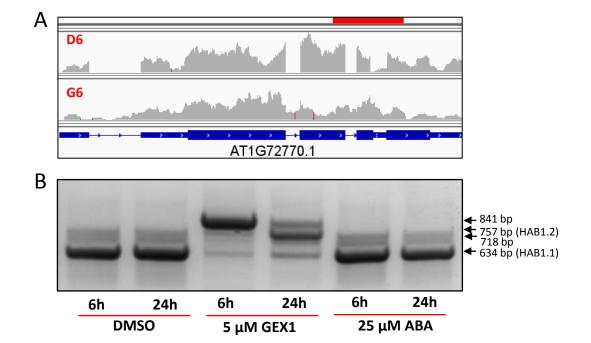
**Supplementary Figure 1. High quality of RNA-seq data. A**, Saturation curve for gene detection. Randomly sampled reads were plotted against the expressed genes. **B**, Comparison of gene expression between the two replicates. The FPKM values were plotted. **C**, the clustering of gene expression levels between control and GEX1 treatments. The figure shows a consistency between the two replicates, 408 genes were down regulated and 561 genes were up regulated by GEX1A treatment.



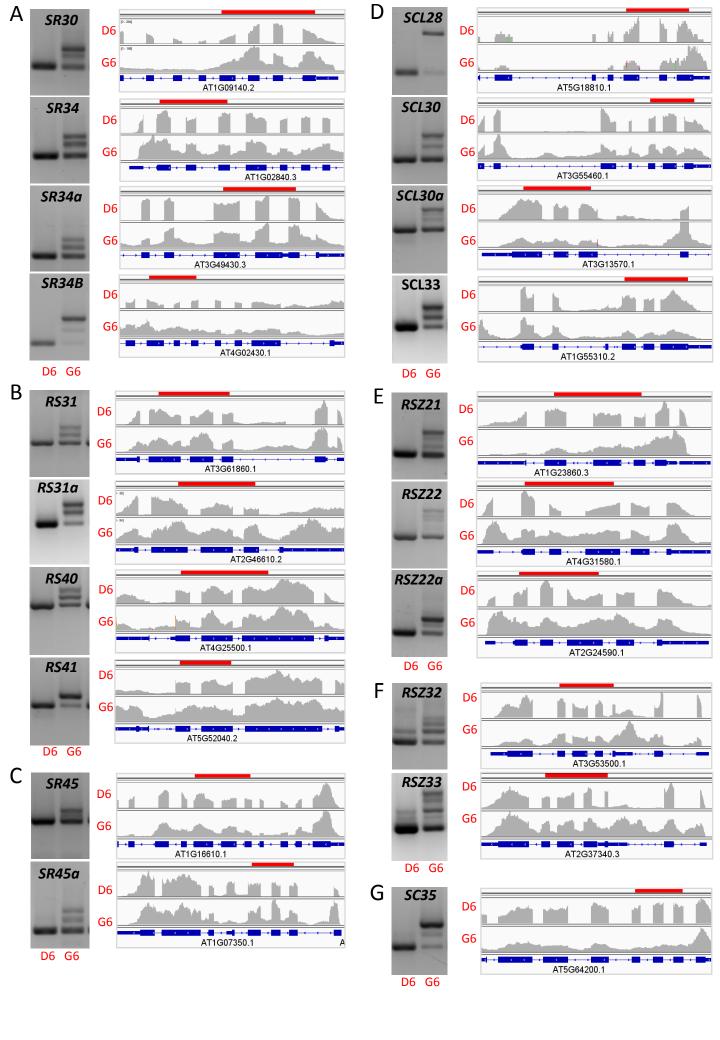
Supplementary Figure 2. GEX1A induce stresses/ABA responsive gene expression. A, A heatmap was generated by mapping upregulated and downregulated (log₂(fold\_change)≥2) genes in GEX1A treatment to gene expression profiles from studies on ABA, drought and salt treatment (microarray database using Genevestigator). The heatmap indicates that a number of GEX1A upregulated genes are upregulated by ABA, drought and salt stress (red); and similarly, a number of GEX1A downregulated genes are downregulated by ABA, drought and salt stress (green).. B-D, GEX1 induced MAPKKK18:GUS reporter gene expression, 10 day old MAPKKK18:GUS reporter transgenic plants were incubated in 20 μM GEX1A for 6h, followed by GUS staining. The GEX1A treated plants (D) showed stronger GUS signal in the root, when compared with negative control (B), ABA was used as positive control. E, quantative RT-PCR showed PB inducing endogenous RD29a, RD29b and MAKKK18 highly expression. The cDNAs were prepared from one week old Arabidopsis Col-0 wild type seedlings previously treated by 5 μM GEX1A and 25 μM ABA for 6h respectively, DMSO as control.



Supplementary Figure 3. Distribution of the RNA-seq reads along annotated Arabidopsis genomic features.



Supplementary Figure 4. GEX1 treatment induced high expression of the *HAB1.2* isoform. A, snapshot of IGV for *HAB1* (AT1G72770) from RNA-seq data, showing the gene structure and splicing pattern in 5  $\mu$ M GEX1A treatment for 6 h, DMSO as control. B, RT-PCR. The cDNAs were prepared from one-week-old Arabidopsis seedlings, which were treated with 5  $\mu$ M GEX1A or 25  $\mu$ M ABA, 0.5% DMSO for 6 h and 24 h, respectively. RT-PCR demonstrated that the *HAB1.2* variant is the major isoform after 5  $\mu$ M GEX1A treatment for 24 h. The 634-bp band was considered as the *HAB1.1* variant, and the 757-bp band was the *HAB1.2* variant.



**Supplementary Figure 5. GEX1A-induced intron retention in SR and SR- like subfamily proteins.** The cDNAs were prepared from one-week-old Arabidopsis seedlings treated with 5 μM GEX1A for 6 h, with DMSO as control. IGV snapshot and validation of the intron retention in SR/SR-like genes by RT-PCR using intron-flanking primers. **A**, SR subfamily genes *SR30*, *SR34*, *SR34a*, and *SR34b*. **B**, RS subfamily genes *SR45* and *SR45a*. **D**, SCL subfamily genes *SCL28*, *SCL33*, *SCL30*, and *SCL30a*. **E**, RSZ subfamily genes, including *RSZ21*, *RSZ22*, and *RSZ22a* underwent intron retention after PB treatment. **F**, RS2Z subfamily genes *RS2Z32* and *RS2Z33* underwent intron retention after PB treatment. **G**, the SC subfamily gene *SC35*. D6, 6-h DMSO treatment; G6, GEX1A 6-h treatment.