### Article

### De novo assembling a high-quality genome sequence of Amur grape (Vitis *amurensis* Rupr.) gives insight into Vitis divergence and sex determination

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#### Abstract

To date, there has been no high-quality sequence for genomes of the East Asian grape species, hindering biological and breeding efforts to improve grape cultivars. This study presents ~522 Mb of the Vitis *amurensis* (Va) genome sequence containing 27 635 coding genes. Phylogenetic analysis indicated that Vitis *riparia* (Vr) may have first split from the other two species, Va and Vitis *vinifera* (Vv). Divergent numbers of duplicated genes reserved among grapes suggests that the core eudicot-common hexaploidy (ECH) and the subsequent genome instability still play a non-negligible role in species divergence and biological innovation. Prominent accumulation of sequence variants might have improved cold resistance in Va, resulting in a more robust network of regulatory cold resistance genes, explaining why it is extremely cold-tolerant compared with Vv and Vr. In contrast, Va has preserved many fewer nucleotide binding site (NBS) disease resistance genes than the other grapes. Notably, multi-omics analysis identified one *trans*-cinnamate 4-monoxygenase gene positively correlated to the resveratrol accumulated during Va berry development. A selective sweep analysis revealed a hypothetical Va sex-determination region (SDR). Besides, a PPR-containing protein-coding gene in the hypothetical SDR may be related to sex determination in Va. The content and arrangement order of genes in the putative SDR of female Va were similar to those of female Vv. However, the putative SDR of female Va has lost one flavin-containing monoxygenase (FMO) gene and contains one extra protein-coding gene uncharacterized so far. These findings will improve the understanding of Vitis biology and contribute to the improvement of grape breeding.

### Introduction

The grape genus (Vitis) contain about 60 species of vining plants. Eurasian grape, East Asian grape, American grape, and other intergeneric hybrid grapes are among the most common grape varieties globally [1].

As a wild plant, originated in eastern Asia, Amur grape (Vitis *amurensis*, Va), also called 'Chinese wild grape' or 'Shanputao' [2, 3], is one of the East Asian grape species, resembling the wine grape (one of the Eurasian grapes). Wild Amur grapes are found in the Yellow River basin and Songhua River basin in China, Siberia, Russia, Korea, Japan, and many other areas around the world [4]. Amur grapes have female, male, or bisexual plants (Fig. 1B–D). Bisexual grapes are more popular than females because they do not require planting of male plants for pollination. Therefore, the gender of grape flowers is an important topic for breeders and in the grape industry. The Latin name 'Vitis *amurensis*' of the Amur grape was first proposed in 1857 by botanist Franz Josef Ruprecht, and the cultivation of Va can be traced back to

1907 (wine-world.com). A female cultivated variant of Amur grape called 'Zuoshan 1' is widely planted in Northern China. A bisexual Amur grape cultivar, 'Shuangyou', is also widely cultivated.

Amur grape has huge commercial potential because of the abundant phenolic compounds, procyanidins, oligostilbenes, and stilbenes it contains [4]. Its fruits are dark purple with small berries, more acidic than those of Vitis vinifera (Vv), and are used as raw materials for claret, sweet red wine, semi-dry wine, semisweet red wine, and brandy (wine-world.com). Young twigs of the Amur grape have spider silk-like hairs (Fig. 1A). Amur grape is extremely cold-tolerant and can survive temperature as low as  $-40^{\circ}$ C [5, 6]. Amur grape has now become a valuable germplasm resource for grape breeding and wine production. Cultivar 'Beibinghong', a cross of Va and Vv, is a good example of cold resistance, having the ability to tolerate temperatures of  $-37^{\circ}$ C, and is therefore used for preparing fancy red ice wine. Recent pharmacological studies showed that Amur grape possesses anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, antioxidant, and anticancer properties [4].

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Figure 1. Amur grape. A Spider silk-like hairs of Amur grape. B Bisexual flower. C Female flower. D Male flower. E Amur grape cv. 'Zuoshan 1'. F Leaf of 'Zuoshan 1'. G Flower of 'Zuoshan 1'.

The genome sequence of Vv cv. 'Pinot Noir (PN40024)', a kind of Eurasian grape species, has been deciphered [7–9] and has been used as the reference for genetic and breeding analyses [10, 11]. A high-quality genome sequence of Vv cv. 'Cabernet Sauvignon' was sequenced in 2021 with Hi-C technology. The genome of Vitis riparia (Vr), an American grape species, was recently decoded [12]. The Va IBCAS1988 genome was sequenced in 2021, and an an assembly of 604.56 Mb and N50 282256 bp was acquired [3]. To date, there is no high-quality sequence for genomes of the East Asian grape species, hindering biological and breeding research efforts to improve grape cultivars. Here, we present a high-quality genome sequence for the Va cv. 'Zuoshan 1', which is a well-known Amur grape variety for winemaking in the industry, with its gender and key features well characterized. The present effort will lay a solid foundation for understanding grape biology and developing new breeding lines by deepening our insight into grapes' evolution and genetic variability, the molecular basis for cold adaptation and sex determination of grapes, etc.

### Results

#### A high-quality Amur grape reference genome

The study used the female Amur grape 'Zuoshan 1' (Fig. 1E-G) as the material. Its genome sequence was assembled *de novo* with

52.69 Gb (~101.46-fold coverage) of Nanopore reads, 98.79 Gb (~189.23-fold coverage) of MGISEQ short reads, and 58.12 Gb (~111.34-fold coverage) of Hi-C data. A k-mer analysis of Illumina reads estimated the Amur grape genome to be ~532 Mb, with DNA heterozygosity 1.20% (Table 1). The final assembled genome sequence reached ~522 Mb, covering ~97.5% of the estimated genome (BUSCO value = 97.5), with a GC content of 0.345 (Table 1).

Moreover, the assembly comprised 56 contigs with contig N50 of 2.5 Mb. In comparison, the N50 of Va IBCAS1988 is much shorter (282 256 bp) (Wang et al., 2021). The resultant 615 contigs, accounted for 98.31% (~513.47 Mb) of the total assembled genome, anchored onto 19 pseudochromosomes using Hi-C reads (Fig. 2A and B). Repetitive elements make up to 59.21% of the genome sequence (Table 1), much higher than the finding (47.06%) in the Va IBCAS1988 genome [3].

We predicted 27 635 protein-coding genes using an integrative strategy combining *de novo* gene prediction, protein-based homology search, and transcript data from RNA sequences of various tissues. Approximately 96.4% of annotated protein-coding genes could be annotated by at least one public database (Inter-Pro, Nr, GO, KOG, Swiss-Prot, TrEMBL and KEGG) (Supplementary Data Table S1). Moreover, 231 miRNAs, 651 tRNAs, 291 rRNAs,

Genomic feature	Zuoshan 1	IBCAS1988
Estimated genome size (Mb)	532.35	607
Total assembly size (Mb)	522.28	604.56
Number of contigs	615	
Largest contig (bp)	14947757	2 623 866
Contig N50 length (bp)	2512611	282 256
Scaffold N50 (bp)	26 519 999	748673
Sequences anchored to chromosomes (Mb/%)	513.47/98.31	
GC content (%)	34.50	34.37
Complete BUSCOs (%)	97.50	
Repeats (%)	59.21	47.06
Protein-coding genes	27 635	32 885
Heterozygosity ratio (%)	1.20	1.23

and 412 snRNAs were annotated. Long terminal repeats (LTRs) accounted for the largest proportion of transposable elements, making up  ${\sim}46.39\%$  of the genome.

Homologous gene dot-plotting analysis showed a big difference in the arrangement order of homologous genes between the Va 'Zuoshan 1' and Va IBCAS1988 genomes (Supplementary Data Fig. S1). Moreover, homologous gene dotplots and chromosome synteny analysis showed highly similar arrangement orders of homologous genes across Va 'Zuoshan 1', Vv PN40024, Vv 'Cabernet Sauvignon', and Vr genomes (Fig. 2C-E). Va has large inversions on chromosomes 3, 9, 10, and 18 relative to Vv and Vr (Fig. 2D and E). Besides, Va IBCAS1988 chromosomes have large inversions on Va 'Zuoshan 1' chromosomes 1, 5, 15, 16, 18, and 19 (Supplementary Data Fig. S1). The homologous gene dotplots also showed a major difference between Va IBCAS1988 and Va 'Zuoshan 1' genomes on chromosome 13. The homologous region between chromosome 13 of Va IBCAS1988 and Va 'Zuoshan 1' is clearly divided into two parts. The anterior part of chromosome 13 (~19.6 Mb) of Va IBCAS1988 is homologous to the posterior part of the Va 'Zuoshan 1' chromosome while the posterior part of Va IBCAS1988 chromosome is homologous to the anterior part of the Va 'Zuoshan 1' chromosome (~12.6 Mb) (Supplementary Data Fig. S1). Previous studies on the Va IBCAS1988 genome indicated a major difference between Va IBCAS1988 and Vv PN40024 on chromosome 13 [3]. Here, we found a minimal difference between Va 'Zuoshan 1' and Vv PN40024 on chromosome 13 (Fig. 2C).

### Comparative genomic analysis of three grape species

Duplicated genes produced by the core eudicot-common hexaploidy (ECH) [8] may have contributed to the divergence of the species. We found that Vr contains more duplicated genes (5231, 20.04%) than Va (4494, 16.26%) and Vv (3993, 12.49%) (Supplementary Data Table S2), showing an 800–1300 duplicated gene composition difference. This would have been caused by unbalanced gene losses in the ECH-produced regions. Polyploidization was anticipated to result in genome instability, characterized by extensive DNA rearrangements and gene losses, especially in the early days after the tripling of the genome. Notably, the present finding suggests that the divergent evolutionary patterns among these grapes after the ECH, as much as 130 million years ago (Mya), likely played and still play a non-negligible role in grape species divergence and biological innovation. The synonymous nucleotide substitution rate ( $K_s$ ) of duplicated genes generated by the ECH shows a difference of up to 3.2% in their evolutionary rates. Vv, Vr, and Va had  $K_s$  peaks located at 1.29 (±0.150), 1.27 (±0.165), and 1.25 (±0.135), respectively, indicating that Va evolved the slowest (ANOVA, P value=0.023) (Fig. 3A, Supplementary Data Table 7). The  $K_s$  peaks derived from the orthologous gene pairs between species were located around 0.026 (Fig. 3B, Supplementary Data Table S3). Considering the proposed occurrence time of the ECH, and that the  $K_s$  between the ECH paralogs was ~1.25 (Fig. 3A), we calculated that the three species should have diverged ~2.3–2.8 Mya (the divergence time between Va and Vv is 2.45–2.77 Mya, that of Va and Vr 2.37–2.67 Mya, and that of Vv and Vr 2.35–2.65 Mya) based on the  $K_s$  between orthologs of every two species was ~0.025–0.026 (Fig. 3B).

By using the concatenated multiple sequence alignment of single-copy genes (5929) inferred by OrthoFinder, between the three Vitis genomes and Aquilegia coerulea, taken as an outgroup, a phylogenetic tree was constructed and showed that Va was closer to Vv in evolution history (Fig. 3C). When Arabidopsis or boxwood was used as an outgroup, we obtained the same inference (Supplementary Data Fig. S2).

Structural variant (SV) analysis revealed large DNA inversions on Va chromosomes 3, 9, 10, and 18 relative to Vv (both 'Cabernet Sauvignon' and PN40024) and Vr, consistent with the homologous gene dotplots (Figs 2 and 4; Supplementary Data Fig. S3). Large DNA rearrangements contributed to the divergence of different grapes. DNA rearrangements in Vitis chromosome 19 were inferred across the three species; large inversions were found between Vr and Vv chromosomes 3, 7, and 18, especially one large DNA segmental translocation detected on Vr and Vv chromosome 18 (Fig. 4; Supplementary Data Fig. S3).

Genome instability due to the ECH resulted in speciesspecific regions, also likely to have contributed to their biological divergence. A comparison of Va and Vv showed that Amur grape had 12 105 specific genomic segments (15.46 Mb), whereas Vv had 8465 (11.73 Mb), with 1609 Va-specific PAV genes and 79 Vv-specific PAV genes positioned within these specific genomic segments (Supplementary Data Table S4). The Vaspecific PAV genes included those encoding cold-responsive protein kinase 1, ethylene-responsive transcription factor, flavonoid 3',5'-hydroxylase 2, DELLA2, heat shock 70 kDa protein, methyl-CpG-binding domain protein, and WRKY transcription factor 14 (Supplementary Data Table S5). In contrast, Vuspecific PAV genes contained several uncharacterized genes (Supplementary Data Table S6). We found that 16 Va-specific PAV genes were cold-resistance-related genes (CRGs). The enrichment of Va-specific PAV genes could be related to enhanced biosynthesis of monolayer-surrounded lipid storage bodies (GO:0012511) and stress fibers (GO:0001725) according to GO analysis (P < 0.05), and strengthened pathways of calcium signaling (ko04020), and phosphonate and phosphinate metabolism (ko00440) according to KEGG analysis (P < 0.05).

A comparison of Amur grape and Vr genomes found that Va had 7142 genome-specific segments (6.53 Mb) while Vr had 3489 segments (7.68 Mb), including 266 Va-specific (Supplementary Data Table S7) and 88 Vr-specific PAV genes (Supplementary Data Table S8). We found that Vitis03G0393, Vitis11G0466, Vitis16G0074, Vitis14G1585, and Vitis05G0085 from Va-specific PAV genes were CRGs. In GO analysis, Va-specific PAV genes (P < 0.05) were enriched, possibly showing the enhancement of negative regulation of stomatal complex development (GO:2000122), regulation of vacuolar transport (GO:1903335), and cellular water homeostasis (GO:0009992). In KEGG analysis, the enrichment



**Figure 2.** Genomic features of Va 'Zuoshan 1' and comparison with other genomes. **A** Landscape of genome assembly and annotation of Va 'Zuoshan 1'. Tracks from outer to inner: I, chromosomes; II, gene density; III, repeat density; IV, non-coding RNA density; V, GC content; VI–IX, gene expression levels (FPKM) in S4–S1; X, synteny information. **B** Hi-C map of Va 'Zuoshan 1'. **C** Dotplot of homologous genes between Va 'Zuoshan 1' and Vv 'Cabernet Sauvignon'. **E** Dotplot of homologous genes between Vv 'Cabernet Sauvignon' and Vr.

of Va-specific PAV genes (P < 0.05) may indicate strengthened pathways in biosynthesis of cutin, suberine, and wax (ko00073), and fatty acid (ko00061).

Similarly, we identified 11503 Vr-specific (19.93 Mb) and 5439 Vv-specific segments (14.26 Mb), including 1556 Vr-specific and 224 Vv-specific PAV genes. Actually, a significant difference was found between the numbers of genome-specific segments and the number of specific PAV genes. This indicated prominent differences in DNA and gene retention/loss rates among the three grapes under study.

Amur grape is extremely resistant to coldness. Here, we identified 349 CRGs in Va, 437 in Vv, and 404 in Vr, accounting for 1.26, 1.37 and 1.01% of the total number of genes in each genome, respectively. An *in silico* interaction network of key CRGs in Va, Vv, and Vr was constructed, as previously described [13]. Then, network robustness was calculated after the removal of certain numbers (5 or 10) or percentages (5, 10, or 20) of nodes. Though Va had the fewest CRGs, research into the robustness

of CRG regulatory networks showed that the CRG regulatory network was more robust in Va than in Vv and Vr (Table 2). This finding may explain why the Amur grape is extremely cold-resistant.

In addition to cold resistance genes, we studied disease resistance genes. We identified totally 64 nucleotide binding site (NBS) genes in Va, which is smaller than the number in Vv (158 NBS family genes) and in Vr (172 NBS genes). Inference of collinear genes showed that 34 Va NBS genes (53.13% of Va NBS genes) were related to the ECH and 42 (65.63% of Va NBS genes) to the tandem duplication. The K<sub>s</sub> value of four pairs of Va NBS genes was 0.025 (Supplementary Data Fig. S4), showing the NBS duplicates were likely generated after divergence of Va from the other grape species. By inferring gene collinearity across three grapes and A. *coerulea*, we inferred 151 ancestral Vitis NBS genes and found that 124 of them might have been lost in Va. In contrast, Vv and Vr were inferred to have lost many fewer NBS genes (57 in Vv and 54 in Vr). The evolutionary tree of NBS genes supports this inference;



**Figure 3.** K<sub>s</sub> distribution of collinear genes and phylogenetic relationship of species. **A** K<sub>s</sub> distribution in each species. **B** K<sub>s</sub> distribution between any two species. **C** Evolutionary tree of selected plants. The number is the step size and represents the size of the difference between two adjacent sequences.

it shows that many branches have multiple Vv or Vr genes but only one or no Va genes (Supplementary Data Fig. S5).

# Regulatory mechanisms of nutrient accumulation at four developmental stages of Vitis amurensis

Berries of Va are nutrient-rich and contain many phenolic compounds, such as anthocyanins and procyanidins, and stilbenes such as resveratrol [4]. Besides, Va berries can be used in winemaking because they are rich in sugars and organic acids. To reveal the molecular mechanisms of nutrient accumulation in Va cv. 'Zuoshan 1' berries, we profiled the RNA-seq data (Table 3) and characterized the gene expression in key biological pathways during grape development, and correlations between gene expression and metabolite accumulation. Four developmental stages of berries, including Stage 1 (S1, late period of berry expansion), Stage 2 (S2, veraison), Stage 3 (S3, the period when berries change color completely), and Stage 4 (S4, maturity stage) (Fig. 5A), were analyzed.

The total sugar content increased significantly and titratable acidity content decreased significantly from S1 to S4



**Figure 4.** Structural variation analysis. **A** Comparison between Va and Vv, with Va as the reference. **B** Comparison between Va and Vr, with Va as the reference. **C** Comparison between Vr and Vv, with Vr as the reference.

(Supplementary Data Fig. S6). Widely targeted metabolomics analysis showed that the contents of succinic acid and 2-isopropyl malic acid decreased significantly from S1 to S4, while the content of D-glucose, a monosaccharide, significantly increased. Trehalose and sucrose, two disaccharides, significantly increased at S3. No significant change was found in tartaric acid content.

To jointly explore gene function with respect to metabolic and transcriptional features, we combined RNA-seq analysis and widely targeted metabolomic analysis. We found that key genes (sucrose-6-phosphatase gene, Vitis08G0202;  $\alpha$ , $\alpha$ -trehalase (trehalose synthesis) gene, Vitis02G0204) from the starch and sucrose metabolism pathway (KEGG code Ko00500) were significantly upregulated (>2-fold, P value <0.05) at S4 compared with S1. Moreover, we found that at S3 the key genes for sucrose synthesis (sucrose-phosphate synthase genes, Vitis05G0995 and Vitis18G2061) and trehalose synthesis ( $\alpha$ , $\alpha$ -trehalase gene, Vitis02G0204) were significantly upregulated. In contrast, the key gene encoding trehalose degradation,  $\beta$ -fructofuranosidase (Vitis16G0541), was significantly downregulated (<0.5-fold , P value <0.05) at S3. At S4, the key genes for sucrose synthesis

Table 2. Assessment of interaction networks constructed using candidate CRGs in Va, Vr, and V $\nu$ .

	All nodes in a network	5	10	5%	10%	20%
Va	84	0.851	0.807	0.861	0.826	0.754
Vr	91	0.832	0.793	0.839	0.801	0.728
Vυ	85	0.816	0.782	0.823	0.797	0.731

Table 3. Summary of RNA-seq data.

Sample	Clean reads	Mapping rate (%)
S1_1	42 378 612	95.52
S1_2	44 413 474	96.27
S1_3	42 453 694	95.60
S2_1	43 634 464	95.63
S2_2	39 853 380	94.96
S2_3	40 757 404	95.10
S3_1	43 282 574	93.71
S3_2	44 118 914	94.34
S3_3	43 169 656	94.15
S4_1	44 205 082	92.82
S4_2	42 005 090	92.90
S4_3	44 053 722	93.42

(sucrose-6-phosphatase gene, Vitis08G0202), sucrose-phosphate synthase (Vitis05G0995 and Vitis18G2061), and trehalose synthesis ( $\alpha$ , $\alpha$ -trehalase gene, Vitis02G0204) were significantly upregulated. In contrast, sucrose metabolism-related genes ( $\beta$ -fructofuranosidase, Vitis16G0541 and Vitis02G0497) were significantly downregulated at S4 compared with S2.

Widely targeted metabolomics analysis showed that the resveratrol content increased significantly from S1 to S4, but there was no significant change in berries sampled at S1 and S2. As regards the stilbenoid, diarylheptanoid, and gingerol biosynthesis pathway (ko00945), stilbene synthase competitively converted the p-coumaroyl-CoA synthesized by trans-cinnamate 4-monooxygenase to resveratrol. In contrast, shikimate Ohydroxycinnamoyltransferase and 5-O-(4-coumaroyl)-D-quinate 3'-monooxygenase could convert the same to caffeoylquinic acid. From S1 to S2, the key genes for caffeoylquinic acid synthesis, the shikimate O-hydroxycinnamoyltransferase gene (Vitis11G0727) and the 5-O-(4-coumaroyl)-D-quinate 3'-monooxygenase gene (Vitis08G0528) were significantly downregulated. From S1 to S3, the trans-cinnamate 4-monooxygenase gene (Vitis06G0746) was significantly upregulated, and the shikimate O-hydroxycinna moyltransferase gene (Vitis11G0727) was significantly downregulated. Meanwhile, the content of caffeoylquinic acid was significantly downregulated, and the resveratrol content increased significantly. From S1 to S4, the trans-cinnamate 4-monooxygenase gene (Vitis06G0746) was significantly upregulated, while the shikimate O-hydroxycinnamoyltransferase (Vitis11G0727) and 5-O-(4coumaroyl)-D-quinate 3'-monooxygenase (Vitis08G0528) genes were significantly downregulated. Meanwhile, the content of caffeoylquinic acid decreased significantly, while the resveratrol content increased significantly. Canonical correlation analysis (CCA) showed that the trans-cinnamate 4-monooxygenase gene (Vitis06G0746), related to the resveratrol content, and the shikimate O-hydroxycinnamoyltransferase (Vitis11G0727) and 5-O-(4-coumaroyl)-D-quinate 3'-monooxygenase (Vitis08G0528) genes were also related to the caffeoylquinic acid content (Fig. 5B and C).

Differentially expressed genes (DEGs) were checked (Table 4) between S1 and S4. They included the putative ripening-related gene (Vitis08G0132), the chalcone synthase 2 gene (Vitis05G0886), the flavonoid 3-O-glucosyltransferase gene (Vitis16G0156), and the sugar transporter SWEET2a gene (Vitis10G0718), the ethylene-responsive transcription factor 3-like gene (Vitis12G0453), the UDP-glucose:flavonol synthase/flavanone 3-hydroxylase gene (Vitis08G0277), and some bHLH and MYB transcription factors, and WD repeat-containing protein.

### Exploring Amur grape putative sex-determining region

A previous study showed that the Vv sex-determining region (SDR) is located on the segment between 4801876 and 5061548 bp on chromosome 2 and involves 15 protein-encoding genes [14–16]. The 5' terminus of the SDR segment has a PPR-containing protein-coding gene and the 3' terminus has an APT3 gene [14]. Another study showed that the SDR is located on the segment between 4810929 and 4921949 bp on chromosome 2, a subregion of the previously reported SDR [17]. Here, orthologous DNA mapping helped identify a putative SDR in Va, between 5055465 and 5 198824 bp on Amur grape chromosome 2. To determine whether the Amur putative SDR is related to sex, we performed the following phylogenetic analysis, population structure analysis, and selective sweep analysis of selected Amur grape plants [18].

By identifying SNPs in 24 Amur grape individuals, including 5 male, 10 female, and 9 hermaphroditic individuals (including 4 tetraploids), we performed phylogeny analysis and examined genetic population structure among the Amur plants (Supplementary Data Table S9). Using 2588125 inferred highquality SNPs, we explored the relationship among these 24 Va individuals and the Va reference genome (this study). The phylogenetic tree that we constructed indicated that the individuals could be divided into two groups. However, the grouping proved unrelated to sex differences (Fig. 6A). Then, using the above-inferred SNPs, we performed a genetic population structure analysis and showed that the individuals could be divided into two groups, too. This grouping also proved unrelated to sex division (Fig. 6B). Alternatively, based on the SNPs in only the inferred SDR regions of the 24 individuals, we constructed a phylogenetic tree. Notably, we found that the tree had groups consistent with sex division (Fig. 6C).

Then, a selective sweep analysis was performed according to sex groups. One of the selected regions inferred (both  $\theta\pi$  ratios and  $F_{ST}$  in the top 5% range) from the comparison of male and female accessions totally overlapped the Amur grape putative SDR. We found that the Amur grape putative SDR contains 16 genes (Vitis02G0494, Vitis02G0495, Vitis02G0496, Vitis02G0497, Vitis02G0498, Vitis02G0499, Vitis02G0500, Vitis02G0501, Vitis02 G0502, Vitis02G0503, Vitis02G0504, Vitis02G0505, Vitis02G0506, Vitis02G0507, Vitis02G0508, and Vitis02G0509), homologous to Vv SDR genes associated with sex (Fig. 6D). Another selected region inferred between male and hermaphroditic groups overlapped part of the Amur grape putative SDR gene Vitis02G0494 (Fig. 6D). However, none of the selected regions inferred between female and hermaphroditic groups overlapped the Amur grape putative SDR (Fig. 6D).

Previous studies showed that the SDR of V $\nu$  M and H haplotype genes include those encoding PPR-containing proteins, a YABBY transcription factor (VvYABBY3), a VviSKU5 (Skewed5), a  $\beta$ fructofuranosidase, an aldolase, a trehalose-6-phosphate phosphatase (TPP), an inaperturate pollen1 (VviINP1), an exostosin family protein, KASIII, two TPR-containing proteins, a PLATZ



**Figure 5.** Multi-omics analysis of Va fruit at different stages. **A** Fruits at stages S1, S2, S3, and S4. **B** CCA analysis of key genes and metabolites in the resveratrol metabolic pathway. **C** Schematic diagram of resveratrol synthesis and metabolic mechanism during fruit ripening of Va. Asterisks indicate that the gene expression or metabolite content of the sample changed significantly compared with S1 (P < 0.05). CYP73A, trans-cinnamate 4-monooxygenase; ST, stilbene synthase; HTC, shikimate O-hydroxycinnamoyltransferase; ROMT, trans-resveratrol di-O-methyltransferase; CYP98A, 5-O-(4-coumaroyl)-D-quinate 3'-monooxygenase.

Table 4. Number of DEGS.				
Group	All	Up	Down	
S2 vs S1	3307	1367	1940	
S3 vs S1	4633	1862	2771	
S4 vs S1	5969	2209	3760	
S3 vs S2	2904	1196	1708	
S4 vs S2	4817	1904	2913	
S4 vs S3	1797	652	1145	

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transcription factor, three flavin-containing monooxygenases (FMOs), a hypothetical protein (VviFSEX), a WRKY transcription factor, and an adenine phosphoribosyltransferase (VviAPT3). The SDR of Vv F haplotypes included genes encoding a PPR-containing protein, a YABBY transcription factor (VviYABBY3), a VviSKU5, a  $\beta$ -fructofuranosidase, an aldolase, a TPP, an inaperturate pollen1 (VviINP1), an exostosin family protein,

a KASIII, and a PLATZ transcription factor. The F haplotypes also had four flavin-containing monooxygenases, a hypothetical protein (VviFSEX), a WRKY transcription factor, and an adenine phosphoribosyltransferase (VviAPT3) [14].

In Va, the F haplotypes included 16 genes encoding a PPRcontaining protein, a YABBY transcription factor (VviYABBY3), a VviSKU5, a  $\beta$ -fructofuranosidase, a fusion protein of aldolase and TPP, an inaperturate pollen1 (VviINP1), an uncharacterized protein (homologous to VIT\_202s0154g00120 of V $\nu$  PN40024), an exostosin family protein, a KASIII, and a PLATZ transcription factor. Besides, the F haplotypes contained three flavin-containing monooxygenases, a hypothetical protein (VviFSEX), a WRKY transcription factor, and an adenine phosphoribosyltransferase (VviAPT3). The SDR of Va F haplotypes had an additional uncharacterized protein gene (Vitis02G0500) and had lost one FMO gene compared with the V $\nu$  'Cabernet Sauvignon' F haplotypes (Fig. 7).



**Figure 6.** Population structure analysis and selective sweep analysis of 24 Va individuals. **A** Population structure of 24 Va individuals. Some individuals' names are abbreviated; refer to Supplementary Data Table S14 for the correspondence between abbreviations and full names. **B** Evolutionary tree reconstructed based on the whole-genome SNPs of 24 Va individuals. **C** Evolutionary tree reconstructed based on the SNPs in the SDRs of 24 Va individuals. **C** Evolutionary tree reconstructed based on the SNPs in the SDRs of 24 Va individuals. **D** Manhattan diagram of the selective region. The top subfigure shows the selective region from the comparison of female and male groups comparison. The middle subfigure is the selective region from the comparison of female and hermaphroditic groups. The bottom subfigure shows the selective region from the comparison of male and hermaphroditic groups. The red dashed line represents the threshold of  $\theta\pi$  ratios and FST (top 5%). Red asterisks mark SDRs.

In Vv, the female-specific DNA polymorphisms at -13, -5, and +2 bp around the transcript initiation sites may reduce transcription and/or alter mRNA decay of the female PLATZ transcription factor allele on the Vv SDR [19]. However, Va lacks these DNA polymorphisms upstream of the ATG of the PLATZ

transcription factor gene in the Amur grape putative SDR. In other words, there is no difference in DNA polymorphisms between female, hermaphrodite, and male *Va* individuals within 20 bp upstream of the PLATZ transcription factor gene.



**Figure 7.** Genes of Vv and Va SDRs. Genes of Vv H, F haplotype SDR are from Vv 'Cabernet Sauvignon'. Genes of Vv M haplotype SDR are from Vv. sylvestris. Genes of Va F haplotype are from 'Zuoshan 1'. The gene indicated with an arrow is the Va uncharacterized protein gene. The key Va PPR-containing gene Vitis02G0494 is indicated with an asterisk.

We found that some other selected regions may be related to sex-determination ( $\theta\pi$  ratios and  $F_{\rm ST}$  estimates in the top of 5%), which include the region (chr3:6730001-8840000 bp) from the comparison of male and female accessions, the region (chr16:3565001-4830000 bp) from the comparison of male and female accessions, the region (chr16:15590001-18015000 bp) from the comparison of male and female accessions, and the region (chr17:11450001-13785000 bp) from the comparison of male and hermaphroditic accessions. In these regions, there are the MADS-box protein AGL62 genes (Vitis03G0709, Vitis03G0710, Vitis03G0711, and Vitis03G0712) from chr3:6730001-8840000 bp. Notably, with the exception of the region in chromosome 3, the PPR-containing gene (Vitis02G0494) was found to have one or two homologs in three of the above inferred SDR-related regions, including Vitis16G0214, Vitis16G0215, Vitis16G0545, and Vitis17G0924.

### Discussion

Vitis mainly includes the Eurasian grape, the East Asian grape, and the American grape. The sequence of the Vv genome (PN 40024), of a Eurasian grape, was published in 2007 [8] and involved research to understand grape biology at the genome scale [2, 10, 20, 21]. Given that its genome has only undergone one polyploidization, the ECH, after splitting from the basal eudicots, it is often used as an outgroup reference for studying the other eudicot genomes [20]. The sequence of the Vr RGM genome, of an American grape, was published in 2019 [12]. The genome sequence of 'Cabernet Sauvignon', a Vv variety, was later published, being assembled using Hi-C technology [14].

Here, we assembled the genome of Va. The above analysis showed that the assembled Va genome sequence reported here is much improved over the previous one. Based on the present genome sequence, we discovered a likely assembly error in chromosome 13 of the previous grape genome sequence.

The availability of multiple grape genome sequences allows the gene sequences of several grape species to be compared and analyzed so that we could detect the evolutionary history and other important comparative genomics information across the

grapes. The work has not been well performed in previous studies. In the present study, gene collinearity analysis showed that the arrangement order of orthologous genes between Va, Vv, and Vr genomes are highly conservative. We have to note here that genome instability due to the ECH, as ancient as 130 million years, contributed to the divergence of the grape genomes. Actually, a characterization of homologous genes showed that Vr is the most conservative one among the three. Vr contains more paralogous genes produced by the ECH, compared with Va and Vu, showing the conservativeness of the Vr genome, and implying that Vr may greatly resemble the common ancestor. Moreover, more orthologous genes were preserved between Vr and the other two grapes (Vv and Va) than between Vv and Va. Besides, phylogenetic analysis supported the idea that Vr was the first one to split from the other grapes. This shows that the Vr genome may be taken as a better reference for Vitis biology and even that of all the eudicots, in that previously Vv was often used to understand the evolution of the other eudicot plants [17]. The present finding that the 130-Mya polyploidization should have contributed to the species divergence of grapes, due to divergent retention/loss of DNA segments and functional genes, reminded us that it may have played a nonnegligible role in grape divergence and genetic innovation, similar to what has been found in rice and other grasses [22]. Possibly, the genomic features of thousands of duplicated genes in crops could be manipulated to breed high-yield and/or high-quality crops.

Species-specific genomic segments also make up a large proportion of the genomes of all the three species, implying significant genomic differences among the three species. SV may generate phenotypic differences [23], e.g. Va being more cold-resistant than the other two species. Biased sequence preservation in Va may have contributed to its ability to resist coldness. Sequence variations, especially incurred by the ECH, may generate phenotypic differences. Here, we found that the Va-specific PAV genes contain CRGs, such as those encoding the ethylene-responsive transcription factors and cold-regulated 413 inner membrane proteins. The robustness of the CRG regulatory networks in Va is higher than that of those in Vv and Vr. This shows that the stronger cold resistance of Va may be related to the preferential preservation of cold-related genes, and Va cold-related genes may constitute a more robust and effective interaction network. A study of CRGs in angiosperms, including Vv, supported the idea that their expansion was significantly related to the occurrence of polyploidization [13]. The present study provides further evidence that the ECH, though it occurred 130–150 Mya, still contributes to the enhancement of resistance to coldness in plants.

Multi-omics analysis of the Va was performed to understand the mechanism underlying the regulation of nutrient accumulation in the Va over its developmental period. Va is sourer than Vv, a factor that needs urgent resolution by breeders, in that high sourness makes the fruits taste unpleasant and the wine tastes unbalanced. The present analysis revealed that the total sugar increased continuously during 'Zuoshan 1' berry development, while the total sugar content in this species/variety was almost equal to that in Vv. Further analyses revealed that the total acid content decreased significantly during 'Zuoshan 1' berry development. Wide target metabolome analysis showed no decrease in tartaric acid content during 'Zuoshan 1' berry development, while contents of citric acid and several malic acid types decreased significantly in 'Zuoshan 1'. Combined transcriptome and metabolome analyses revealed that sucrose-6-phosphatase,  $\alpha, \alpha$ -trehalase, and  $\beta$ -fructofuranosidase genes jointly regulate the accumulation of sucrose and trehalose during 'Zuoshan 1' development. The DEGs during S1-S4 comprise the ripening-related protein-like gene, the chalcone synthase gene, which is the first enzyme activated in the flavonoid biosynthetic pathway [24], the UDP-glucose:flavonoid 3-O-glucosyltransferase gene, which promotes anthocyanin accumulation in grape [25], the SWEET gene, which is a sugar transporter and uniporter gene [26], the ethyleneresponsive transcription factor 3-like gene, containing bHLH, MYB transcription factor genes, and the WD repeat-containing protein genes. Most of these genes may be involved in Va berry ripening. Therefore, we infer that these DEGs may play a central role in the process of Va berry ripening.

The Va genome sequence was further analyzed to understand the relationship between different Va phenotypes and genotypes. Given the scarcity of hermaphroditic Va in nature, we explored the SDR in this grape. Previous studies have uncovered the SDR of Vv [14]. The three Vv types (varieties) are determined by the genotype at the SDR. Males are heterozygous for the male and female haplotypes (MF), females are homozygous (FF), and cultivated Vv hermaphrodites are either homozygous for hermaphrodite haplotypes (HH) or heterozygous (HF). Previous studies have shown that the SDR of Vv M and H haplotypes have two TPR-containing protein genes and three FMOs, and the SDR of Vv F haplotypes contains four FMOs without a TPR-containing protein gene [14]. This implies that the type or number of genes in the SDR of grapes varies between sexes.

Further analyses to clarify whether SDR is also present in Va revealed that one fragment from Va (chr2:5 055 465–5 198 824 bp) is homologous to Vv SDR in Va (chr2:4.8–5.06 Mbp) and call it the Amur grape putative SDR. In the present study, we sequenced the female Va genome. Therefore, further analyses were performed to explore whether the types and numbers of genes in the female Va putative SDR were consistent with those in the female Vv SDR. Selective sweep analysis of male, female, and hermaphroditic individuals revealed that one selected region from the comparison of male and female accessions overlapped the Amur grape putative SDR including 16 genes all homologous to Vv SDR genes (such as the APT3 gene, the PLATZ transcription factor gene, and the TPP gene). A previous study inferred that the VaAPT3 gene (orthologous to Vitis02G0508 in the present Va genome), located in the Amur grape putative SDR, was associated with sex determination [27]. Recently, the PLATZ transcription factor gene has been found to determine the grape's sexuality [19]. The TPP gene, also located in the Amur grape putative SDR, and TPP genes in many species have also been associated with sex determination, flower development, reproduction, and synthesis of plant hormones, among other functions [28, 29]. PtTPPs displayed a specific expression pattern in seven developmental stages of Populus male and female floral buds [30]. TPP controls inflorescence architecture in maize through sugar signal modification [31]. This suggests that the hypothetical Va SDR may be related to sex determination. One selected region from the comparison of male and hermaphroditic accessions overlapped part of the Amur grape putative SDR including only one gene (PPR-containing gene), which is homologous to the Vv SDR gene PPR-containing gene. Both the selected region in chromosome 2 from the comparison of male and female accessions and the selected region in chromosome 2 from the comparison of male and hermaphroditic accessions contain the PPR-containing gene Vitis02G0494. This indicated that the gene may be the key gene related to sex determination in Va. Additionally, some selected regions may be related to sex determination in Va. Previous studies indicated that some PPR-containing proteins genes could restore fertility to cytoplasmic male-sterile plants [32–35]. A study on RNA-seq analysis of three flower sex types in grapevine showed that some grape PPR-containing genes could be essential for carpel development [36]. The study also inferred that a PPR-containing gene(s) may be essential for the perfect development of sexual floral organs. Here, we found that some other selected regions comprise many PPR-containing protein genes, allowing further exploration of their likely contribution to sex determination.

However, no selected region that overlapped the Amur grape putative SDR from the comparison of male and hermaphroditic accessions was found. We found that the type and arrangement order of all genes in the putative SDR of female Va and the SDR of Vv were similar. However, compared with Vv F haplotypes, the putative SDR of female Va has lost one FMO gene and contains one extra uncharacterized protein. The uncharacterized protein gene has never been found in the SDR of Vv 'Cabernet Sauvignon' and Vitis sylvestris [14]. The role of the uncharacterized protein gene in Va sex determination needs further exploration.

Yang et al. studied sex determination based on another East Asian grape, Vitis *pseudoreticulata* 'Huadong1058' and found a key SDR between 3.29 and 5.78 bp on chromosome 2 [37]. This indicated that chromosome 2 of many Vitis plants may be related to sex determination.

In the other selective region (chr17:11450001–13785000 bp), we found from comparison of *Va* male and hermaphroditic accessions that there are many MADS-box protein AGL62 genes. Previous studies inferred MADS-box protein genes may be also related to developing male and female flowers [38, 39]. We consider that the region (chr17:11450001–13785000 bp) may be also related to *Va* sex determination. In addition to those selective regions that have been found to contain PPR-containing proteins gene, it should be explored whether *Va* sex may be determined by several different genomic regions in the future.

### Materials and methods Plant materials and DNA sequencing

Fresh leaves and stems of Va cv. 'Zuoshan 1' were sampled for DNA extraction and sequencing. Total genomic DNA was extracted using the CTAB (cetyltrimethylammonium ammonium bromide) method [40]. The library for ONT sequencing (Oxford Nanopore

Technology, Oxford, UK) was constructed using large (>15 kb) DNA fragments with the SQK-LSK109 Ligation Sequencing Kit and sequenced using the ONT platform. Adapters and low-quality nucleotides (with mean quality score <7) were trimmed off. Paired-end libraries with 350-bp insert sizes were constructed following the manufacturer's protocols and sequenced using the MGIseq 2000 platform (MGI Tech Co. Ltd, Guangdong, China). The MGIseq reads were filtered using the SOAPnuke1.5.6 online software (https://github.com/BGI-flexlab/SOAPnuke). For highthroughput chromosome conformation capture (Hi-C) analysis, fresh leaves and stems of Va cv. 'Zuoshan 1' were treated following previous methods [41].

### Genome size and heterozygosity estimation

The genome size was estimated from the MGIseq reads using kmer analysis, and the k-mer depth-frequency distribution was generated using Jellyfish software [42]. Genome size and heterozygosity were calculated using GenomeScope software [43].

#### De novo genome assembly

Long ONT reads were corrected using Canu (https://github.com/ marbl/canu/releases), and *de novo* assembled using Smartdenovo software (https://github.com/ruanjue/smartdenovo). Racon (https://github.com/isovic/racon) and Medaka (https://github. com/nanoporetech/medaka) software were applied to polish the assembled contigs. The polished, assembled data were then corrected using Pilon (v.1.22, https://github.com/broadinstitute/ pilon/). Next, the HaploMerger2 pipeline reduced the assembly to ~522 Mb. After that, the purged assembled contigs were anchored into 19 pseudochromosomes using Juicer with the parameters -g draft -s MboI and the 3D de novo assembly (3D-DNA) pipeline with the parameters -m haploid -r 2 [44, 45].

### Genome annotation and gene prediction

Transposable elements were predicted using combined homologybased comparisons with RepeatMasker v4.0.7, RepeatProteinMask v4.0.7, and de novo approaches with Piler [46] (http://www. drive5.com/piler/), RepeatScout, and RepeatModeler. Tandem repeats were identified using Tandem Repeats Finder v4.09 [47] (http://tandem.bu.edu/trf/trf.html) and LTR\_FINDER v1.06 [48]. Furthermore, the Va protein-coding gene set was deduced by de novo, homology, and evidence-based gene prediction (transcriptome data) [49]. The transcript evidence included transcripts assembled from the RNA-seq data of different tissues (leaf, stem, flowers, tendril, and fruit; these samples were mixed and subjected to RNA-seq). Predicted protein-coding genes were finally screened, and sequences of <30 bp or with  $\ge 90\%$  repetitive DNA were filtered out. Next, the predicted genes were functionally annotated using a previous method [49]. Moreover, tRNA was identified using tRNAscan-SE 1.3.1 [50] (http://lowelab.ucsc.edu/ tRNAscan-SE/), BLASTN identified rRNA, while INFERNAL (http:// infernal.janelia.org/) identified miRNA and snRNA.

### Genome homology inference

Protein sequences from one plant were searched against itself and those of another plant genome using BLASTP [51] to find the best, second best, and other matches with E value <1E–5. Dotplots were produced using the WGDI package of Python [52]. Collinear genes were inferred using the -icl subprogram contained in the WGDI package with default parameters. Nucleotide substitution rates were estimated between collinear homologous genes using the YN00 program in the PAML (v4.9h) package implementing the Nei–Gojobori approach [53].

#### Species tree

A rooted species tree was inferred using Orthofinder (version 2.5.4) with the -M msa parameter [54, 55] based on 5929 single-copy genes.

### Identification and characterization of cold-related genes

The cold-related genes in the three grape species and gene network robustness were determined following previous methods [13].

### Structural variation analysis

The SV analysis was performed using the NUCmer program embedded in MUMmer with the parameters -mumreference g 1000 -c 90 -l 40 [56]. Genomic-specific segment analysis was performed as follows. First, the query genome sequence was split into 500-bp windows with an overlapping step size of 100 bp, and then all the 500-bp window subsequences were aligned against the reference genome by BWA-MEM with the parameters -w 500 -M. The 500-bp windows that failed to align or aligned with <25% coverage were defined as genomic-specific segments. Genes within the genomic-specific segments were defined as the specific genes of the query genome (species-specific PAV genes). SV plots were drawn using ggplot2.

### Widely targeted metabolomic analysis

Berries from four growth stages were used for this study, including Stage1 (S1, the late period of berry expansion), Stage 2 (S2, veraison), Stage 3 (S3, the period when berries change color completely), and Stage 4 (S4, maturity stage). Three biological replicates from each stage were used for metabolome analysis. Metware Biotechnology Co., Ltd (Wuhan, China) performed metabolome extraction and analysis using previously described methods [57]. Metabolites were identified using the Metware database (MWDB), and metabolite abundances were determined according to the metabolite peak areas. Metabolites were considered as differentially accumulated when the variable importance in projection (VIP) was  $\geq 1$ , and the absolute  $\log_2$  (fold change) was  $\geq 1$ . Metabolic pathways were constructed according to the KEGG database.

### Total sugar and titratable acidity content analysis

Berries from four growth stages (S1, S2, S3, and S4) were ground into homogenate and used for this study. Three biological replicates from each stage were used for metabolome analysis. We analyzed the total sugar content using the sulfuric acid-anthrone colorimetric method and the instrument used was a Lambda 365 ultraviolet/visible spectrophotometer. We analyzed the titratable acidity content using acid-base titration and using sodium hydroxide standard solution (0.05 mol/l).

### **RNA** sequencing

Just as we analyzed the metabolome, berries from four stages, S1, S2, S3, and S4, were used for the RNA-seq analysis. Three biological replicates from each berry stage were used for RNA-seq analysis. Novogene Co. Ltd performed the RNA-seq experiments on the Illumina Novaseq 6000 platform (Illumina, CA, USA) following the manufacturer's instructions and previously described steps [58]. All paired-end reads were mapped to the Va genome using Hisat2 v2.0.5. Expression levels were calculated using the FPKM (fragments per kilobase of exon model per million mapped fragments). The DEGSeq R package (1.20.0) was used to identify

DEGs. Genes with adjusted P value <0.05 and fold change  $\geq 2$  or  $\leq -2$  were identified as DEGs.

## Integrated analysis of metabolome and RNA sequencing

For the combined analysis of all metabolome and transcriptome data, CCA was performed on the metabolome and RNA-seq data using the CCA package in the R statistical environment [59]. Next, WGCNA (weighted correlation network analysis) was performed on all RNA-seq and metabolome data using the WGCNA package in the R statistical environment.

### Population genetic analysis

Essentially, 24 Amur grape genotypes were re-sequenced based on the Va genome assembled in this study and used for calling SNPs. Concurrently, the ANNOVAR package was employed for population genetic analysis. Clean read data (10-fold Va genome size) of 24 kinds of Amur grape were separately obtained on the MGI2000 platform. The SNPs in linkage disequilibrium were filtered using PLINK with a window size of 50 SNPs (advancing 5 SNPs at a time) and a 0.5  $r^2$  threshold. PCA was conducted using GCTA (v1.25.2) [60]. Furthermore, population structure was analyzed using FRAPPE, and the MLtree was constructed using SNPhylo [61] to clarify the phylogenetic relationships.

#### Selective sweep analysis

Selective sweep analysis was performed using a previously described method [62]. In brief,  $F_{ST}$  and  $\theta\pi$  were used to detect candidate selective regions between the three grape populations,  $F_{ST}$  and  $\theta\pi$  were calculated using PopGenome [63, 64] regions with both  $\theta\pi$  ratios and  $F_{ST}$  estimates in the top of 5% were considered as the selection regions.

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### Author contributions

P.W., Y.Z., Y.Y., H.Z., and B.L. designed the experiments. T.D., H.L., F.W., S.F., K.L., and Q.Z. performed the experiments and wrote the manuscript. F.M., A.L., Z.M., and T.Z. analyzed the data. J.J., Y.Z., and X.W. edited the manuscript.

### Data availability

The Va genome project was deposited at NCBI under Bio-Project number PRJNA868106 and BioSample SAMN30308461. All Va coding sequences, protein sequences, and gff files can be download from the TCMPG 2.0 database under number TCMPG20325 (http://cbcb.cdutcm.edu.cn/TCMPG2/genome/ details/?id=TCMPG20325). The Va IBCAS1988 genome data can be downloaded from the NGDC database (https://ngdc.cncb.ac. cn/search/?dbId=gwh&q=PRJCA001564&page=1). Vitis vinifera cv. 'Cabernet Sauvignon' genome data can be downloaded from the grapegenomics.com database (https://www.grapegenomics.com/ pages/VvCabSauv/download.php). Vitis riparia genome data can be downloaded from the NCBI database (https://www.ncbi.nlm. nih.gov/datasets/genome/?taxon=96939).

### **Conflict of interest**

The authors declare no competing interests.

### Supplementary data

Supplementary data is available at Horticulture Research online.

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