Evolutionary transition to XY sex chromosomes associated with Y-linked duplication of a 1 2 male hormone gene in a terrestrial isopod 3 4 Aubrie Russell¹, Sevarin Borrelli¹, Rose Fontana¹, Joseph Laricchiuta¹, Jane Pascar^{1,2}, Thomas 5 Becking³, Isabelle Giraud³, Richard Cordaux³, Christopher H. Chandler^{1*} 6 7 ¹Department of Biological Sciences, State University of New York at Oswego, Oswego, NY, 8 **United States** 9 ²Current address: Center for Reproductive Evolution, Department of Biology, Syracuse 10 University, Syracuse, NY, United States 11 ³Laboratoire Ecologie et Biologie des Interactions, Equipe Ecologie Evolution Symbiose, 12 Université de Poitiers, UMR CNRS 7267 Poitiers, France 13 14 *Corresponding author: 15 Christopher H. Chandler 16 Department of Biological Sciences 17 State University of New York at Oswego 18 christopher.chandler@oswego.edu

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Abstract

Sex chromosomes are highly variable in some taxonomic groups, but the evolutionary mechanisms underlying this diversity are not well understood. In terrestrial isopod crustaceans, interactions with *Wolbachia*, a vertically transmitted endosymbiont causing male-to-female sex reversal, are thought to drive rapid evolutionary turnovers in sex chromosomes. Here, we use surgical manipulations and genetic crosses, plus genome sequencing, to examine sex chromosomes in the terrestrial isopod *Trachelipus rathkei*. Although an earlier cytogenetics study suggested a ZZ/ZW sex chromosome system in this species, we surprisingly find that in our study population, sex is determined by an XX/XY system. Consistent with a recent evolutionary origin for this XX/XY system, the putative male-specific region of the genome is small. The genome shows evidence of sequences horizontally acquired from past *Wolbachia* infections, as well as evidence of Y-linked duplications of the androgenic gland hormone gene, thought to be a possible target for sex reversal by *Wolbachia*. Overall, these results are consistent with the hypothesis that reproductive endosymbionts such as *Wolbachia* can promote quick turnover of sex determination mechanisms in their hosts.

Introduction

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Although sexual reproduction is shared by most eukaryotes, a variety of different cues can trigger individuals to follow a male, female, or hermaphroditic developmental plan (Conover & Kynard 1981; Janzen & Phillips 2006; Ospina-Álvarez & Piferrer 2008; Tingley & Anderson 1986; Verhulst et al. 2010). In many eukaryotes, sex is primarily determined genotypically, and in most of those cases, sex chromosomes are the primary sex-determining factors, although some exceptions, including polygenic systems and haplodiploidy, are also known (Vandeputte et al. 2007; Heimpel & de Boer 2008). Sex chromosomes in animals are usually grouped into two main classes: XY systems, in which males are heterogametic (XY) and females are homogametic (XX): and ZW systems, in which females are heterogametic (ZW) and males are homogametic (ZZ). However, non-genetic cues can also play an important role in some species. For instance, environmental factors, such as temperature or population density, influence or determine phenotypic sex in reptiles, fishes, and invertebrates (Conover & Kynard 1981; Janzen & Phillips 2006; Tingley & Anderson 1986). In some cases, cytoplasmic factors, including sexreversing endosymbionts, such as Wolbachia, microsporidia, and paramyxids can serve as a sex-determining signal (Bouchon et al. 1998; Pickup & Ironside 2018; Terry et al. 1998; Negri I et al. 2006; Kageyama et al. 2002). Evolutionary theory holds that the formation of sex chromosomes begins when an autosome acquires a sex-determining locus (Rice 1996). Subsequently, recombination around the sexdetermining locus is selected against because of sexually antagonistic selection (Bergero & Charlesworth 2009). For instance, selection should favor mutations that are beneficial in males but deleterious in females when those alleles are linked to a dominant male-determining allele; recombination, on the other hand, would break up this linkage and result in females that carry these male-beneficial alleles. The non-recombining region is then expected to spread in the

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presence of continued sexually antagonistic selection, and may eventually span the whole sex chromosome, except for the usual presence of a small recombining pseudo-autosomal region (Charlesworth et al. 2005). Once recombination has ceased, the non-recombining sex chromosome, such as the Y chromosome in mammals or the W chromosome in birds, is expected to degenerate. Non-recombining genes frequently undergo pseudogenization, acquiring nonsense mutations or transposable element insertions (Charlesworth & Charlesworth 2000). At the same time, gene trafficking can occur when selection promotes the translocation of formerly autosomal genes to the sex chromosomes (Emerson et al. 2004). Different species appear to be at different stages of sex chromosome evolution. For instance, the sex chromosomes of therian mammals are highly conserved, having originated ~160 million years ago (Potrzebowski et al. 2008; Veyrunes et al. 2008). The highly degenerated, heteromorphic Y chromosome represents an advanced stage of sex chromosome evolution. In other taxonomic groups, on the other hand, sex chromosomes appear to undergo more frequent evolutionary turnovers (Pennell et al. 2018; Cioffi et al. 2013; Myosho et al. 2015; Jeffries et al. 2018; Ross et al. 2009; Vicoso & Bachtrog 2015). Such young sex chromosomes may have little or no recombination suppression, differentiation in gene content, or sex chromosome dosage compensation, and may not be detectable by traditional cytogenetic methods because they are visually indistinguishable (homomorphic) (Vicoso & Bachtrog 2015; Gamble et al. 2014). Sex chromosomes may even be polymorphic within a species, with different sex-determining loci segregating within or among populations (Traut 1994; Meisel et al. 2016; Ogata et al. 2008; Orzack et al. 1980). Unfortunately, we still have a limited understanding of why evolutionary turnovers of sex chromosomes are rare in some groups but frequent in others. A variety of models have been proposed to explain why these turnovers occur, including sexual antagonism, deleterious

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mutations, and the 'hot potato' model (van Doorn & Kirkpatrick 2007; Blaser et al. 2013, 2014). In some organisms, interactions with vertically transmitted reproductive endosymbionts are also thought to influence the evolution of their hosts' sex determination mechanisms (Rigaud et al. 1997; Cordaux et al. 2011). However, many of these models have been difficult to test in nature. This problem is exacerbated by the fact that, while sex chromosomes have been extensively studied in model organisms like *Drosophila*, studies are more sparse in non-model organisms. One group that has received relatively little attention is crustaceans. Different crustacean species show a variety of distinct sex determining mechanisms, yet there are very few crustacean species in which candidate master sex-determining genes have been identified (Chandler et al. 2018, 2017). Within crustaceans, perhaps one of the best-studied groups in terms of sex determination is the terrestrial isopods (Oniscidea). Terrestrial isopod species have a mix of XY and ZW systems, along with reports of a few parthenogenic species and populations (Rigaud et al. 1997; Johnson 1986; Fussey 1984). The bacterial endosymbiont Wolbachia also influences sex determination by causing male-to-female sex reversal in some isopod hosts (Bouchon et al. 1998; Cordaux et al. 2004). In fact, interactions with Wolbachia are thought to drive rapid evolutionary turnover of the sex chromosomes in terrestrial isopods. This hypothesis is supported by multiple lines of evidence. For instance, in the common pillbug Armadillidium vulgare, a copy of the Wolbachia genome horizontally integrated into the host genome (formerly known as the f element) led to the origin of a new W chromosome (Leclercq et al. 2016). A recent phylogenetic analysis also identified, at minimum, several transitions in heterogametic systems along the isopod phylogeny, including closely related species pairs with different sex chromosome systems (Becking et al. 2017). Moreover, only a few species of terrestrial isopods are known to have heteromorphic sex chromosomes, in which the X and Y, or Z and W, chromosomes are visually distinguishable in cytogenetics experiments (Rigaud et al. 1997), and WW or YY individuals are often viable and fertile (Juchault & Rigaud 1995; Becking

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et al. 2019), suggesting that the W and Y chromosomes have not lost any essential genes in these species. In this study, we examined sex determination in the widespread species Trachelipus rathkei. This species was previously established by cytogenetic methods to have heteromorphic, albeit slightly, Z and W sex chromosomes (Mittal & Pahwa 1980). We sought to confirm female heterogamety by crossing females to sex-reversed neo-males (which have female genotypes but male phenotypes), and assessing the sex ratio of the resultant progenies. Surprisingly, we found that, at least in our focal population, sex is determined by an XX/XY system, suggesting a recent sex chromosome turnover. To test this hypothesis, we performed whole-genome sequencing. Consistent with a recent origin of an XX/XY sex determination system, we find evidence that the putative male-specific region of the genome is small, and we identified a malespecific partial duplication of the androgenic gland hormone (AGH) gene, a rare example of a candidate sex-determining gene in a crustacean. In addition, although our study population does not appear to harbor current Wolbachia infections, we find genomic evidence of past infections. Overall, our results are consistent with the hypothesis that sex-reversing endosymbionts like Wolbachia can drive rapid evolutionary turnover of sex chromosomes in their hosts. Methods Animal collection and husbandry We sampled wild isopods from Rice Creek Field Station (RCFS) at SUNY Oswego in Oswego, NY. We captured animals using a combination of methods. First, we haphazardly searched through leaf litter, logs, and rocks. We also used "potato traps", made by carving out a 1-2 cm

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diameter core from a potato and placing it in the litter for 1-2 weeks. Finally, we constructed pitfall traps from plastic cups buried in the ground with the rim of the cup flush with the ground. The primary species captured were Oniscus asellus and Trachelipus rathkei, but we also captured Philoscia muscorum, Hyloniscus riparius, Trichoniscus pusillus, and occasionally Cylisticus convexus. Species identification was performed in the field and confirmed in the lab. where we also determined the phenotypic sex of specimens. Isopods were housed in plastic food storage containers with holes in the lids for air exchange. on a substrate of moistened soil. Containers were checked twice weekly. Animals were fed carrots and dried leaves ad libitum. The photoperiod was kept on a schedule of 18:6 light hours:dark hours in the summer and and 14:10 in the winter. We isolated ovigerous females in individual containers, and separated offspring from their mothers upon emergence from the marsupium. We initially sexed offspring at six to eight weeks old, and separated males from females to prevent sibling mating. We then double-checked offspring sex at roughly two week intervals thereafter until four months of age to watch for individuals that might have shown late signs of sexual differentiation. Terrestrial isopods are known to store sperm from a single mating to fertilize future broods. Therefore, for experimental crosses we only used *T. rathkei* females that were born in the lab, separated from brothers as soon as they could be sexed, and which had not produced any offspring by 12 months of age. Wolbachia testing We used PCR assays to detect Wolbachia in T. rathkei individuals. DNA was extracted from

We used PCR assays to detect *Wolbachia* in *T. rathkei* individuals. DNA was extracted from one or two legs, depending on the size of the animal. We ruptured the leg tissue in 400 μL deionized water along with a few 0.5 mm zirconia/silica beads (enough to cover the bottom of the tube) using a bead beater machine. Samples were lysed following a protocol of 2500 RPM

for 10 seconds, followed by 4200 RPM for 10 seconds, and finally 4800 RPM for 10 seconds. The tube was then visually inspected to confirm the leg was sufficiently pulverized. We then transferred the Ivsate to a new tube, added 60 uL of a 5% Chelex® 100 molecular biology grade resin suspension, and incubated for 15 minutes at 100° C. After incubation, we centrifuged the extract at 16,000g for 3 minutes, and reserved 80 µL of supernatant for PCR testing. We confirmed successful DNA extraction using the mitochondrial primers HCO2198/LCO1490 (Folmer et al. 1994). We performed PCRs in 10 µL reactions, using 4.95 µL of molecular biology grade water, 2 µL NEB OneTag Buffer, 1 µL of mixed dNTPS at a final concentration of 2mM for each dNTP, 1 µL of a 5 µM solution of each primer, and 0.05 µL of NEB OneTag. For the mitochondrial primer set, PCR conditions included an initial denaturation of 94° C for 1 minute; 5 cycles of 94° C denaturation for 30s, 45° C annealing for 90s, and 68° C extension for 60s. The samples then underwent 35 cycles of 94° C for 30s, 51° C for 90s, and 68° C for 60s. This was followed by a final extension step of 68° C for 5 minutes. To test for Wolbachia, we performed PCR using Wolbachia-specific primers targeting the wsp (81f/691r) and ftsZ (ftsZf1/ftsZr1) genes (Braig et al. 1998; Werren John H. et al. 1995). We performed PCRs in 10 µL reactions, using 4.95 µL of molecular biology grade water, 2 µL NEB OneTag Buffer, 1 µL of mixed dNTPs at a final concentration of 2mM for each dNTP, 1 µL of either wsp or ftsZ primers, and 0.05 µL of NEB OneTag. PCR conditions contained an initial denaturation of 95°C for 5 minutes, followed by 36 cycles of 95° C for 60s, 54° C for 60s, and 68°C for 3 minutes. This was followed by a final extension step at 68° C for 10 minutes.

Androgenic gland implantation and crosses

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To test whether sex is determined by a ZZ/ZW or XX/XY system of sex determination in our population of *T. rathkei*, we performed crosses between females and experimentally sex-reversed neo-males. Juvenile female *T. rathkei* were implanted with live androgenic glands,

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according to (Becking et al. 2017). Male donors and female recipients were selected from large lab-reared broods with even (~1:1) sex ratios. An adult male was sacrificed by decapitation, and live androgenic glands were dissected into Ringer solution (393 mM NaCl. 2 mM KCl. 2 mM CaCl₂·2H₂O, 2 mM NaHCO₃). Female recipients were between 5 and 8 weeks old, an age at which males and females begin to become distinguishable, but at which sexual development is not complete. The gland was injected using a pulled glass pipette into a hole pierced with a dissecting needle in the 6th or 7th segment of the juvenile female's pereon. Recipients were isolated in a small plastic container with a moist paper towel for recovery and observation. Experimental animals were monitored for signs of male development. Any animal that failed to develop male genitalia by 4 months post-implantation was considered to be a failed injection. After maturation, adult neo-males were placed in individual containers with 1-3 previously unmated females. Crosses were monitored twice weekly to check for signs of reproduction in females. Gravid females were then isolated into their own containers until parturition. Genome sequencing All raw sequencing data and the draft genome assembly are available under NCBI BioProject PRJNA633105. Data analysis scripts are available at https://github.com/chandlerlab/trachelipus genome. We performed whole-genome sequencing using a combination of Illumina, PacBio, and Oxford Nanopore sequencing, with multiple sequencing samples of each sex (Table 1). Because we expected the T. rathkei genome to be large, repetitive, and highly polymorphic, and because we expected to need to isolate DNA from multiple individuals, we established a partially inbred

laboratory line using offspring from a single female collected from RCFS. We mated brothers

and sisters from this female for two generations in the lab prior to collecting genetic samples

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from the third generation for sequencing. DNA was collected for sequencing using the Qiagen DNEasy Blood and Tissue Kit following the manufacturer's instructions. DNA was quantified using the Qubit DNA Broad Range assay kit, and the A260/280 value was checked with a Nanodrop spectrophotometer. Samples were stored at -80°C prior to being shipped to the sequencing center. Illumina sequencing was performed at the State University of New York at Buffalo Genomics and Bioinformatics Core Facility. For PacBio sequencing, we had to pool DNA from multiple individuals to obtain sufficient quantities of DNA for library preparation. We performed separate DNA extractions from three individuals of each sex as above. Then, we pooled the DNA from the three individuals of each sex and concentrated it using Ampure XP beads (Beckman-Coulter). Briefly, we washed the beads three times in molecular biology grade water, once in Qiagen buffer EB, and finally resuspended the beads in their original buffer. We then added equal volumes of Ampure XP suspension to the DNA samples, mixed them on a shaker for 15 minutes, placed the tubes on a magnetic bead separator, and removed the supernatant. We washed the beads twice with 1.5 mL of 70% ethanol, and finally eluted the DNA samples in 30 µL of Qiagen buffer EB. Sequencing libraries were prepared and sequenced at the University of Delaware Sequencing & Genotyping Center on a PacBio RSII. We also supplemented our PacBio dataset with Oxford Nanopore sequencing data. We isolated DNA from a single T. rathkei female and two separate males using a Qiagen DNEasy Kit as described above. We then performed sequencing on Oxford Nanopore Minion flowcells (R9.4) with the Rapid Sequencing Kit (SQK-RAD004) following the manufacturer's instructions. Genome assembly

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We performed a hybrid assembly combining the short- and long-read sequence data. We first removed adapters and trimmed the Illumina sequencing data using Trimmomatic v. 0.36 (Bolger et al. 2014); we removed leading and trailing bases, as well as internal windows of at least 4bp. with a quality score of 5 or lower, and discarded any reads shorter than 36bp after trimming. We then used SparseAssembler (Ye et al. 2012) to assemble the cleaned Illumina data from sample Mpool (to minimize the number of sequence polymorphisms that would be present in the data with additional samples), using two different kmer sizes (k=51 and k=61). After performing preliminary quality checks using Quast (Gurevich et al. 2013), we decided to proceed with the k=61 assembly, which had the longer total length and N50 (Supplementary Table 1). However, because we suspected the genome might still contain high levels of heterozygosity despite two generations of inbreeding, we used Redudans (Pryszcz & Gabaldón 2016) to remove putative allelic contigs from the Illumina-only assembly; we set identity and overlap thresholds of 95%. Prior to performing hybrid assembly, we used the short reads to correct sequencing errors in the long reads using FMLRC (Wang et al. 2018) with the default settings, except requiring a minimum count of 3 to consider a path (-m 3). PacBio and Oxford Nanopore reads derived from female isopods were corrected using Illumina sample Fpool, while long reads from male samples were corrected using sample Mpool. We next performed hybrid assembly using DBG2OLC (Ye et al. 2016), which accepts a shortread assembly (rather than raw short-read sequence data) and long-read sequence data (in this case, our PacBio and Oxford Nanopore reads) as input. We tested out a range of different parameter values: from the Redundans-filtered assembly, we first removed contigs less than 100bp or 200bp; we tested kmer sizes of 17 and 19; for the kmer coverage threshold, we tried values of 2 and 5; and for the minimum overlap, we tried values of 10 and 30. We used an

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adaptive threshold of 0.01. These assemblies ranged in size from ~5.2 Gb to 8.5 Gb; we selected three assemblies across the range of total sizes for further processing. We next corrected errors in these assemblies, caused by the relatively high error rates in longread sequence data. In the standard DBG2OLC pipeline, the resulting contigs are corrected using the contigs from the short-read assembly and from the long reads using Sparc (Ye & Ma 2016); however, in our initial attempts, large portions of the assemblies went uncorrected, perhaps because we had relatively low-coverage long-read data. Therefore, instead we performed three rounds of error correction using Pilon (Walker et al. 2014), by mapping the raw Illumina sequence reads to each assembly using bbmap (first two rounds; (Bushnell et al. 2017)) and bwa mem (third round; with the parameters -A 1 -B 1 -O 1 -E 1 -k 11 -W 20 -d 0.5 -L 6 for mapping to an error-prone assembly; (Li 2013)). Finally, we assessed the quality of each assembly using BUSCO v.3.0.2 (Simão et al. 2015), with the arthropod reference gene set, and selected the assembly with the greatest number of BUSCO reference genes present for further analysis. To remove contaminants from the final assembly, we generated blob plots using Blobtools v.1.0 (Laetsch & Blaxter 2017). To accomplish this, we BLASTed all contigs against the NCBI nucleotide (nt) database using megablast (Morgulis et al. 2008) and against Uniprot reference proteomes using diamond blastx (Buchfink et al. 2015). We then removed any contigs that were identified as coming from plants, fungi, viruses, or bacteria, except for those matching Wolbachia. Genome annotation

We used RepeatModeler v.1.0.10, which uses RECON (Bao & Eddy 2002), RepeatScout (Price et al. 2005), and Tandem Repeat Finder (Benson 1999), to construct a custom repeat library for *T. rathkei*. Because we were unable to run RepeatModeler successfully using the full assembly, we ran RepeatModeler on a random subset 40% of the contigs; this should still successfully identify most repetitive elements in the genome as long as all repeat families are still well represented in the subset. We then masked the assembly using RepeatMasker 4.0.7 (Tarailo-Graovac & Chen 2009).

We annotated coding sequences using the MAKER pipeline (Cantarel et al. 2008). We initially ran MAKER using assembled transcript sequences (est2genome=1) from previously available data from one wild-caught male and one wild-caught female *T. rathkei* from the same population (Becking et al. 2017) (SRR5198727, SRR5198726), along with protein alignments against Uniprot-Swissprot (version March 2020) and used the resulting output to train SNAP (Korf 2004). To train AUGUSTUS (Stanke et al. 2006) we used the output from the BUSCO quality assessment described earlier. We then completed a final round of MAKER using the trained gene models.

Development of sex-linked PCR markers

We used multiple approaches to develop male-specific, putatively Y-linked PCR markers. Initial attempts to perform a genomic assembly with male samples and then identify contigs with zero coverage in females were unsuccessful. We therefore developed a complementary approach by looking for male-specific k-mers in the raw sequencing reads. We used kmc v.3.1.0 (Kokot et al. 2017) to count all the canonical 21-mers in each of the Illumina sequencing datasets (in other words, each 21-mer and its reverse complement were considered to be the same k-mer during counting). We then searched for k-mers that occurred at least 8 times in the Mpool Illumina

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sequencing dataset and a total of at least 3 times combined across the lower coverage M2, M5, M6, and wildM samples, but which were completely absent from all female samples. We then extracted all sequence reads containing these candidate male-specific k-mers using mirabait v.4.0.2 (Chevreux et al. 1999), and assembled them using Spades v.3.11.1 (Bankevich et al. 2012). To test male-specificity of these contigs, we used polymerase chain reaction (PCR). We developed PCR primers for a subset of candidate male-specific contigs. To identify the best candidates, we first mapped raw sequencing reads from all male and female samples to the full genome sequence plus the candidate male-specific contigs, and identified contigs that had coverage in male samples but not female samples; we also avoided contigs that showed evidence of containing repeat elements, after BLAST searches against the whole genome assembly. We designed primers using PRIMER3 (Untergasser et al. 2012, 3). In these PCRs, primers were initially screened using template DNA from two male samples and two female samples; primers that showed evidence of sex specificity after this first PCR were re-tested using a larger number of samples. PCR primers were initially tested using a cycle of 98°C for 3 minutes, followed by 40 cycles of 98°C for 15s, 50°C for 35s, and 68°C for 60s; this was followed by a final extension step of 68°C for 10 minutes. For samples that did not amplify under this program, a gradient PCR was run to determine optimal annealing temperature. All PCRs were performed using the same recipe and reaction conditions as the Wolbachia PCRs described above. We also identified open reading frames (ORFs) in these candidate male-specific contigs using Transdecoder v.4.0.0 (Haas & Papanicolaou 2016), and annotated the ORFs using Trinotate v.3.1.1 (Bryant et al. 2017). Subsequently, we designed additional primers targeting these ORFs.

351 352 Results 353 354 No Wolbachia and balanced sex ratios in T. rathkei 355 356 Among the 100+ individuals captured and tested between 2015 and 2017, no T. rathkei from 357 RCFS conclusively tested positive for Wolbachia. This was not due to inadequate testing 358 protocols; for instance, a captive population of *Porcellio laevis* housed in our lab shows nearly a 359 100% infection rate using the same methods (not shown). Approximately 150 T. rathkei broods 360 were raised in the lab from either mated, wild-caught females or first-generation crosses. The 361 mean and median brood sizes of this species in our lab were 27.1 and 22.5 offspring, 362 respectively, and the vast majority of these broods had a balanced sex ratio (Supplementary 363 Table 2). Thus, the prevalence of Wolbachia and other sex ratio distorters is at most very low in 364 this population of T. rathkei. In addition, some wild-caught females produced broods even after 365 several months to a year in isolation in the lab (Supplementary Table 2), confirming that this species is capable of long-term sperm storage. 366 367 368 Crossing sex-reversed individuals indicates an XY sex determination system 369 370 Five juveniles implanted with androgenic glands survived to mature into males; they were 371 crossed with virgin females from families with normal sex ratios. Each putative neo-male was 372 paired with 2 to 3 females, and each female produced 1-3 broods of offspring. Two of these 373 males sired broods with balanced sex ratios (not significantly different from a 1:1 ratio of males 374 to females; Table 2); these were likely individuals that would have developed into males even 375 without the AG implantation, and thus are uninformative with respect to the sex determination 376 system (Becking et al. 2017). However, three other males produced only female offspring,

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consistent with an XX/XY system (XX neo-male × XX female yields all XX and therefore 100% female offspring) but not a ZZ/ZW system (ZW neo-male × ZW female expected to produce 1/4 ZZ, 1/2 ZW, and 1/4 WW offspring, thus 75% female or 66.7% female depending on whether WW genotypes are viable). Genome assembly The draft genome assembly of *T. rathkei* is approximately 5.2 Gb in total length. The genome is highly repetitive, consisting of approximately 70% repetitive elements. Transposable elements constitute the largest repeat category, with LINEs, followed by DNA elements and LTRs, being the most represented (Figure 1). All repeat families seem to have a single divergence peak of around 7-10% (Figure 1). Despite its large size, the draft assembly is likely only partially complete, with ~25% of arthropod BUSCO genes missing (Table 3). There were 15,805 transcripts assembled from the previously available transcriptome dataset whose best hits in blastn searches against the NCBI nt database and diamond blastx searches against Uniprot-Swissprot were from other arthropods; of those, only 53% had nearly full-length matches in the genome (≥ 90% of the transcript length at ≥ 90% sequence identity), suggesting some missing data and/or remaining uncorrected sequencing errors in the draft assembly as well. We screened the T. rathkei genome for Wolbachia nuclear insertions by BLASTing the assembled contigs against a collection of Wolbachia genome sequences, and then BLASTing the matching regions against all representative bacterial genomes from RefSeq to rule out false positives. After this filtering step, we were left with 1010 high confidence matches (best BLAST hit in a Wolbachia genome, e-value < 1 x 10⁻⁶) spread across 719 contigs, with a total length of

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~350 kb for the matching sequences (Supplementary Table 3), much smaller than a typical full Wolbachia genome of about 1 - 1.6 Mb on average (Sun et al. 2001). These likely horizontally acquired sequences clustered closely with Wolbachia strain wCon from the isopod Cylisticus convexus (Badawi et al. 2018) with 100% bootstrap support, in a group sister to wVulC and the f element of Armadillidium vulgare (Leclercq et al. 2016) (Figure 2). Moreover, there were multiple insertions carrying sequences similar to the cytoplasmic incompatibility genes cifA and cifB genes (LePage et al. 2017; Beckmann et al. 2017; Lindsey et al. 2018). These cifA- and cifB-like sequences probably represent nonfunctional pseudogenes, however, as they show evidence of being broken up by insertions (Supplementary Figure 1). Searching for candidate sex-determining genes We identified ~6.04 x 10⁶ 21-mers as potentially male-specific, suggesting there is approximately 6 Mb of male-specific sequence content in the genome. However, when we isolated the raw sequencing reads containing those 21-mers and assembled them, we obtained 89.4 Mb of assembled sequences, suggesting the male-specific region may be as large as ~90 Mb, but still shares significant similarity with the X chromosome. Even if up to 90 Mb of sequence is partially sex-linked, this represents just 1.7% of the genome, consistent with an evolutionarily young Y chromosome in this species. Of the initial 16 candidate Y-linked PCR markers designed from anonymous sequences, none showed the expected pattern of male-specific amplification in our early tests (Supplementary

Table 4). This may be due to the highly repetitive nature of the *T. rathkei* genome, despite our

best efforts to target primers to non-repetitive sequences.

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Because the candidate male-specific contigs were assembled from Illumina data only and thus short and fragmented, we were unable to screen them for annotated candidate sex-determining genes using the typical MAKER pipeline. However, we were able to identify open reading frames (ORFs) and annotate them like transcripts using Trinotate (Bryant et al. 2017). Two contigs in the male-specific assembly showed homology to the androgenic gland hormone (AGH) gene upon annotation, suggesting there may be a Y-linked duplication of the AGH gene. Therefore, we designed PCR primers specifically targeting one of the Y-linked AGH-like sequences (AGHY1 on NODE 44048 length 535; F: 5'-ATTCTTGACTCTCCCCACGA-3'; R: 5'-TCTCCAACTACGATTTCGTTAATT-3'). These primers resulted in a PCR product of the expected size (195 bp) in all male samples screened (7/7), but not in any of the female samples (0/7), all of which were unrelated wild-caught individuals, confirming the male-specificity of this AGH allele. This AGH sequence could be either a male-specific duplication of the AGH gene, or a Y-linked allele that has diverged from an X-linked copy (in other words, gametologs). To distinguish between these possibilities, we examined the sequencing depth of these genes and of other putatively single-copy genes (identified in the BUSCO analysis) in male and female sequencing samples. If the male-specific AGH sequence is a gametolog of an X-linked sequence, we would expect the total sequencing depth of all AGH sequences (putative autosomal and putative Ylinked) to be the same in both the pooled male and pooled female samples, with the female sample having a higher average sequencing depth for the putative X-linked AGH sequences (since they would be homozygous for the X-linked gametologs, while males would be hemizygous for the X-linked gametologs). If, on the other hand, the male-specific AGH sequences are Y-linked duplicates, and not allelic to the other AGH sequences in our assembly, we would expect the shared autosomal AGH sequences to have similar sequencing depth in both male and female samples, and the combined sequencing depth of all AGH sequences

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(putative autosomal and putative Y-linked) would be higher in the male sample. Our results were consistent with the latter scenario, suggesting these are Y-linked duplicates rather than gametologs (Figure 3). Note that sequencing depth of AGHY1 and AGHY2, though much lower in the female sample than in the male sample, is still non-zero in the female sample, probably because of ambiguously mapped reads due to high similarity between the Y-linked and autosomal copies. Because the male-specific AGH sequences were found only in our Illumina data, we were unable to assemble them into long contigs, even after repeated attempts to assemble them individually with different assemblers and parameter values (not shown); all these contigs were ~600bp or less in length. Thus we are unable to determine whether these are complete duplicates of the whole gene, or fragments. Nevertheless, a phylogenetic analysis suggests that one of the Y-linked duplicates is a copy of the other, rather than an independent duplication of an autosomal copy, and based on branch lengths they are as divergent from one another as AGH orthologs in different species (Figure 3). In addition, these Y-linked copies seem to lack an intron that is present in the autosomal copies (Figure 4), suggesting they may have originated via retrotransposition. We also find some evidence of additional autosomal duplicates of the androgenic gland hormone (AGH) gene. Two contigs in the full assembly contained annotated transcripts with at least partial homology to the expressed transcript identified as the AGH sequence, and a third contained no annotated genes but still showed high sequence similarity to AGH in BLAST searches. However, not all of the annotated exons in the first two copies matched the expressed transcript, and there were unannotated portions of the same contigs that did show sequence similarity to the transcript (Figure 4). Moreover, some of the matching portions of the assembled contigs had less than 90% sequence identity to the expressed transcript, and analysis of the

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sequencing depth of these regions reveals that one has very low coverage, suggesting it may be an assembly artifact (see below). Thus, we cannot rule out the possibility that some of these possible autosomal duplicates represent assembly and/or annotation artifacts. If they are real, these autosomal duplicates appear to be specific to *Trachelipus*, occurring after its divergence from *Porcellio* (Figure 3), but they may still be nonfunctional. **Discussion** Possible sex chromosome polymorphism and recent transition to XY sex chromosomes in Trachelipus rathkei We have shown that, at least in our upstate New York population, sex determination in the terrestrial isopod Trachelipus rathkei is based on an XX/XY sex chromosome system. Two independent lines of evidence support this finding: first, crosses between females and sexreversed neo-males yielded all female offspring (Table 2), consistent with an XX/XY system but not a ZZ/ZW system (Becking et al. 2017); second, we have identified PCR primers that only amplify a product in male samples, indicating the presence of a male-specific genomic region, i.e., a Y chromosome. Our findings run counter to a previously published study showing evidence of female heterogamety in this species based on cytogenetics; in that study, female germ cells contained one set of unpaired chromosomes (presumably, the Z and W sex chromosomes), while male germ cells did not (Mittal & Pahwa 1980). There are multiple possible explanations for this contradiction. First, it is possible that the previous study incorrectly identified the species of study specimens, as no information on identification is given in the paper; however, T. rathkei is relatively easy to distinguish from other cosmopolitan terrestrial isopod species by its five pairs

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of pleopodal "lungs" (most superficially similar species such as Porcellio scaber have only two pairs; (Hatchett 1947; Shultz 2018)). In addition, that study was published before feminizing Wolbachia was widely recognized in terrestrial isopods. It is therefore theoretically possible that the females used in that study carried an XY genotype but were feminized by Wolbachia, while the males in that study might have carried a YY genotype, perhaps resulting from a cross between an XY father and a sex-reversed XY or YY mother which failed to transmit Wolbachia (Becking et al. 2019). However, we found no evidence of sex-reversing Wolbachia in our T. rathkei population. Perhaps the most likely explanation is sex chromosome polymorphism. Indeed, this would not be unprecedented, as sex determination in terrestrial isopods is thought to evolve rapidly (Rigaud et al. 1997; Cordaux et al. 2011; Becking et al. 2017), and within-species sex chromosome polymorphisms are documented in a few other species. For instance, two subspecies of Porcellio dilatatus, P. dilatatus dilatatus and P. dilatatus petiti have XX/XY and ZZ/ZW systems, respectively (Juchault & Legrand 1964; Legrand et al. 1974; Becking et al. 2017). In addition, multiple sex determining elements segregate in populations of the common pillbug Armadillidium vulgare (Juchault et al. 1992), including a novel W chromosome that resulted from the integration of an almost entire Wolbachia genome into the host genome (Leclercg et al. 2016). Outside terrestrial isopods, sex chromosome polymorphisms are also documented in a range of other arthropods and vertebrates (Rodrigues et al. 2013; Orzack et al. 1980; Franco et al. 1982; Ogata et al. 2008). T. rathkei is probably non-native in North America where this study was conducted (Jass & Klausmeier 2000), as well as perhaps in India where the prior study on cytogenetics was done (Mittal & Pahwa 1980). Given its cosmopolitan distribution, and the fact that other terrestrial isopods have moderate to high levels of genetic diversity (Romiguier et al. 2014), it might not be especially surprising for T. rathkei to harbor

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multiple polymorphic sex-determining loci. Hopefully future follow-up work can further characterize geographic variation in sex determination in this species. Regardless of whether or not sex determination is polymorphic in *T. rathkei*, the sex chromosomes in this species are likely evolutionarily young because it is nested within a clade that mostly consists of ZZ/ZW species (Becking et al. 2019). In addition, the putative malespecific region of its genome is relatively small, displaying only moderate divergence from candidate gametologous sequences, similar to other terrestrial isopods examined so far (Chebbi et al. 2019; Becking et al. 2019). Given that we found genomic evidence of a past association with Wolbachia in this species and that infection by Wolbachia has been found in other T. rathkei populations (Cordaux et al. 2012), this observation is consistent with the hypothesis that transitions in sex determination mechanisms may be triggered by Wolbachia and other endosymbionts that manipulate host reproduction (Rigaud et al. 1997; Cordaux et al. 2011). If other populations of T. rathkei with different sex determination mechanisms can be identified, it may be possible to leverage this system to further study the mechanisms and selective forces influencing transitions in sex determination mechanisms. In addition, studies of sex determination in a phylogenetic context involving other members of the family Trachelipodidae would shed further light on the origins of the X and Y chromosomes in *T. rathkei*. Genome size, structure, and repetitive elements The draft genome assembly of T. rathkei is especially large, at around 5.2 Gb, with approximately 29% GC content. The actual genome is likely to be even larger, given that ~25% of the BUSCO arthropod orthologs were missing in our assembly. By comparison, genomes of

pillbugs in the genus Armadillidium tend to be smaller at around 1.2 - 2 Gb in size (Chebbi et al.

2019; Becking et al. 2019), but other terrestrial isopods have genomes ranging to over 8 Gb

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(Gregory 2020), and other crustacean relatives such as amphipods also have large genomes (Rees et al. 2007; Rivarola-Duarte et al. 2014; Kao et al. 2016), so T. rathkei is not out of the ordinary for this group. The *T. rathkei* genome contains a large proportion of repetitive elements, in particular transposable elements (Figure 1). The most common transposable element families are LINEs, DNA elements, and LTRs, similar to Armadillidium vulgare and A. nasatum (Chebbi et al. 2019; Becking et al. 2019). The distribution of divergence values, with a single mode around 7-10% divergence, suggests that most repeat families expanded around the same time as in A. vulgare and A. nasatum; however, unlike in A. vulgare, T. rathkei shows no evidence of a second more recent burst in DNA element activity. Simple repeats also comprise a substantial portion of the genome; even manually looking through the assembled contigs reveals a high abundance of (TA)x repeats. Wolbachia insertions We found many contigs with high similarity to the Wolbachia genome (Supplementary Table 3),

even though we were unable to detect current *Wolbachia* infections in our population using PCR. This is not surprising given that *Wolbachia* is relatively common in terrestrial isopods and arthropods in general (Cordaux et al. 2012; Pascar & Chandler 2018; Medina et al. 2019), has been found in other populations of *T. rathkei* (Cordaux et al. 2012), and that horizontal transfers of *Wolbachia* DNA into host genomes is also common (Dunning Hotopp 2011). These *Wolbachia* insertions seem to be most closely related to strain *wCon* from *C. convexus*, which does not induce male-to-female sex reversal, but rather causes cytoplasmic incompatibility

(Moret et al. 2001; Badawi et al. 2018). Consistent with this, we find that several copies of the

cytoplasmic incompatibility genes cifA and cifB among these insertions in the T. rathkei genome

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(Supplementary Figure 1). Thus, these past T. rathkei infections may have caused cytoplasmic incompatibility rather than host sex reversal, but it is possible that the same Wolbachia strain may have multiple effects on host phenotypes. Candidate sex-determining genes and repeated duplication of the AGH gene Male differentiation in terrestrial isopods is controlled by the androgenic gland hormone, AGH. AGH is a peptide hormone similar in structure to insulin, and is secreted by the androgenic gland (Martin et al. 1999). AGH expression is sufficient to transform juvenile female isopods into fertile males (Martin et al. 1999). Presumably, in wild-type males, the primary sex-determining signal triggers the differentiation of the androgenic glands during development, which then secretes AGH. Interestingly, the draft genome of T. rathkei contains multiple AGH-like sequences. While some of these may be assembly artifacts, there is evidence three at least partial Y-linked sequences, of which one was confirmed by PCR to be male-specific. These duplications seem to be specific to *T. rathkei* (Figure 5), though other members of the genus Trachelipus or the family Trachelipodidae have yet to be examined. Consistent with this, a past study found no evidence of any expressed AGH duplications in other terrestrial isopod species except Porcellio gallicus (Cerveau et al. 2014). In many other species, novel sex chromosomes have arisen via duplication of a sex-determining gene. For instance, duplicates of the vertebrate gene Dmrt1 have evolved into master sexdetermining signals on the W and Y chromosomes, respectively, in the frog Xenopus laevis (Yoshimoto et al. 2008) and the medaka Oryzias latipes (Nanda et al. 2002; Matsuda et al. 2002, 2007), while a Y-linked duplicate of the anti-Müllerian hormone gene is a candidate master sex-determining gene in the teleost fish *Odontesthes hatcheri* (Hattori et al. 2012). The presence of Y-linked AGH copies in T. rathkei, and no other obvious open reading frames

homologous to known sex determination or sex differentiation genes, makes these genes obvious candidates for the master male-determining signal in *T. rathkei*. Unfortunately, we were unable to assemble full copies of these Y-linked AGH homologs because they only showed up in our Illumina data, not in our low-coverage long read data. Future deep sequencing using long reads should further clarify the molecular evolution of these genes. In addition, expression studies should determine which of these genes are expressed, in what tissues, and at what stages.

If one of these AGH duplicates is indeed the master sex-determining signal in *T. rathkei*, this could support the idea of a transition in sex determination mechanisms triggered by *Wolbachia* and other reproductive endosymbionts (Rigaud et al. 1997; Cordaux et al. 2011). AGH may be a primary molecular target by which *Wolbachia* causes male-to-female sex reversal in isopod hosts, as injection with AGH does not cause female-to-male sex reversal in individuals infected by *Wolbachia* (Juchault & Legrand 1985; Cordaux & Gilbert 2017). Thus, *Wolbachia* may impose strong selection (via female-biased sex ratios) favoring duplication and divergence of the AGH gene to escape this sex reversal. The finding that *T. rathkei* may have historically been infected by a *Wolbachia* strain causing cytoplasmic incompatibility does not necessarily negate this finding, as the same *Wolbachia* strain can have multiple effects on host phenotypes.

Conclusions

We have shown that the terrestrial isopod *Trachelipus rathkei* uses an XX/XY sex chromosome system, at least in upstate New York, in contrast to a past cytogenetic study suggesting a ZZ/ZW mechanism (Mittal & Pahwa 1980). In line with this, whole-genome sequencing and follow-up PCRs demonstrate the existence of male-specific, Y-linked copies of the androgenic gland hormone gene in this species. These findings highlight the role of gene duplication in the

evolution of sex chromosomes and support the possibility that reproductive endosymbionts like Wolbachia may favor evolutionary transitions in host sex determination mechanisms.

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Table 1. Trachelipus rathkei DNA samples used for genomic sequencing.

Sample name	Sex	Notes	Platform/ read length	Total data (Gb)	Ref.	Accession Number
M-pool	М	Pool of three brothers, lab-reared	Illumina, 2x100	191.6	This study	SRR11797365
F-pool	F	Pool of three sisters, lab-reared	Illumina, 2x100	191.9	This study	SRR11797364
M2	М	One male, lab- reared	Illumina, 2x250	22.3	This study	SRR11797360
M5	М	One male, lab- reared	Illumina, 2x250	20.6	This study	SRR11797359
M6	М	One male, lab- reared	Illumina, 2x250	23.6	This study	SRR11797358
F3	F	One female, lab- reared	Illumina, 2x250	131.5	This study	SRR11797357
F4	F	One female, lab- reared	Illumina, 2x250	26.8	This study	SRR11797356
Wild-M	М	One male, wild- caught	Illumina, 2x100	14.1	(Chandler et al. 2015)	SRR4000567
Wild-F	F	One female, wild- caught	Illumina, 2x100	14.4	(Chandler et al. 2015)	SRR4000573
PB-F1	F	Pool of three sisters, lab-reared	PacBio	22.2	This study; (Peccoud et al. 2017)	SRR11797355
PB-F2	F	Pool of three sisters, lab-reared	PacBio	1.3	This study; (Peccoud et al. 2017)	SRR11797354
РВ-М	М	Pool of three brothers, lab-reared	PacBio	3.9	This study; (Peccoud et al. 2017)	SRR11797353
ONT-F	F	One female	ONT	0.4	This study	SRR11797363
ONT-M1	М	One male	ONT	3.9	This study	SRR11797362
ONT-M2	М	One male	ONT	3.3	This study	SRR11797361

Table 2. Sex ratios from crosses between putative neo-males (juvenile females implanted with an androgenic gland) and females. *p* gives the probability of the observed or a more extreme result (pooling the data for each neo-male) under a balanced sex ratio (i.e., assuming each individual offspring has an equal probability of being male or female).

Neo-male	Female	Number of female offspring	Number of male offspring	р	
D-4-7	1	23	0	5.7 x 10 ⁻¹⁴	
	2	14	0		
	3	7	0		
G-4-22	1	16	8	0.13	
	2	17	14		
	3	13	13		
F-4-9	1	36	0	1.7 x 10 ⁻¹⁸	
	2	23	0		
10-8	1	24	35 0.19		
	2	40	40		
AGS169-2	1	45	0	2.1 x 10 ⁻²⁵	
	2	37	0		

Table 3. Assembly statistics for the *T. rathkei* draft genome.

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Total length	5,181,251,014 bp		
Number of contigs	421,784		
N50	39,761 bp		
GC content	29.0%		
Complete BUSCO genes	533 single copy (51.9%); 39 duplicated (3.7%)		
Fragmented BUSCO genes	203 (19.0%)		
Missing BUSCO genes	271 (25.4%)		

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Figure Legends Figure 1. Distribution of divergence levels for repetitive elements in the Trachelipus rathkei genome. Figure 2. Phylogenetic tree showing the position of candidate horizontally transferred Wolbachia segments in the Trachelipus rathkei genome. Numbers by nodes indicate bootstrap support. The tree was generated by concatenating all candidate Wolbachia insertions in T. rathkei longer than 1000 bp, along with the best-matching regions in the reference Wolbachia genomes, aligning with MUSCLE v. 3.8.31 (Edgar 2004), filtering alignments with trimal v. 1.2rev59 (Capella-Gutiérrez et al. 2009), selecting a model using ModelTest-NG v. 0.1.6 (Darriba et al. 2020), and running the analysis in RAxML-NG v. 0.9.0 (Stamatakis 2014) with 100 bootstrap replicates. Figure 3. Distribution of sequencing depth for single-copy BUSCO genes in male and female Illumina sequencing datasets (M-pool and F-pool). Labeled dots indicate the sequencing depth for the different AGH copies in each sample. Figure 4. Possible duplicates of the androgenic gland hormone gene in the *Trachelipus rathkei* genome. The green bars represent the sequence of the expressed AGH sequence, assembled from previously available transcriptome data. Gray bars represent contigs in the draft genome assembly, and the pink bars on contigs represent annotated exons. Purple segments connecting portions of the transcript to portions of contigs represent BLAST hits. The incongruence between annotated exons and BLAST matches between the transcript and contigs suggests the annotation still contains some errors.

Figure 5. Phylogenetic tree showing relationships among AGH sequences from terrestrial isopods. AGH2 and AGHY3 are missing from this phylogeny because those sequences were omitted because of their short length. The tree was generated using all AGH-like sequences from *T. rathkei* of at least 100 bp, along with reference AGH nucleotide sequences from other species, aligning them with MUSCLE v. 3.8.31 (Edgar 2004), selecting a model using ModelTest-NG v. 0.1.6 (Darriba et al. 2020), and running the analysis in RAxML-NG v. 0.9.0 (Stamatakis 2014) with 100 bootstrap replicates.

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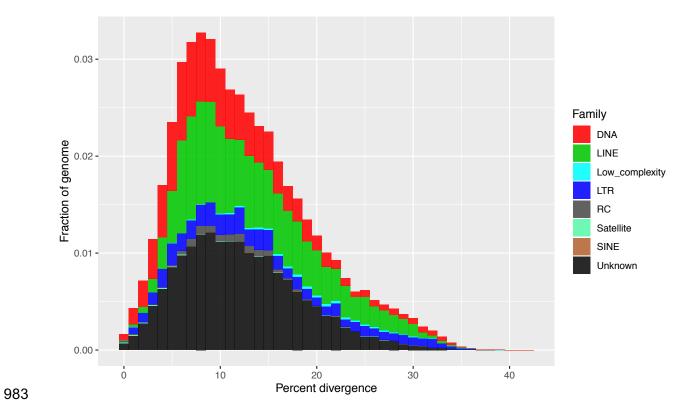
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