Discovery of new endogenous viral elements in campoplegine wasps (Ichneumonidae, Campopleginae, Campoplex) suggests a widespread nudivirus domestication event

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Abstract

Viral endogenization is a widespread phenomenon that generally results in non-functional viral elements. In parasitoid wasps, nudiviruses have been involved in three independent domestication events and play a key role in parasitism success. In Campopleginae (Ichneumonidae), endogenized ichnovirus presence is widespread, with the exception of *Venturia canescens* (Ichneumonidae Campopleginae), which is known to harbour an endogenous nudivirus that enables the wasp to produce Virus-Like-Particles (VLPs). So far, in Campopleginae, the nudivirus endogenization event was an isolated case restricted to *V. canescens.* Using third generation sequencing technologies, microscopy and mass spectrometry, we described new cases of domesticated nudiviruses in campoplegine wasps of the genus *Campoplex*. We found endogenized viruses in *Campoplex* genomes which belong to the Alphanudivrius genus and derive from the same endogenization event as the virus found in *V. canescens,* suggesting that this integration event could be much more widespread in Campopleginae than previously thought. These nudiviruses are organised in highly conserved clusters, but this organisation appears to have changed relatively to free viruses during the domestication process. We showed that *Campoplex capitator* produces in its ovaries VLPs that are similar morphologically to *V. canescens* VLPs, with almost the same protein content, except for a strikingly different virulence proteins, a sign of different evolutionary paths taken to respond to distinct evolutive pressure. While ichnovirus remnants have been previously

36 found in *V. canescens*, no trace of ichnovirus could be detected in *Campoplex* genomes,

37 meaning that the evolutionary history of viral integrations in Campopleginae is more complex

38 than previously imagined.

39 Keywords: Nudivirus, Viral domestication, Campopleginae, Virus-Like-Particle, Parasitoid

40 wasp, Ichnovirus

Introduction

The endogenization of viral sequences within eukaryotic genomes is a common phenomenon

in the evolutionary history of eukaryotic organisms (Feschotte & Gilbert, 2012; Holmes, 2011).

These viral sequences, known as endogenous viral elements (EVEs), involve all virus types

likely to integrate into any eukaryotic genome (Ballinger et al., 2014; Bejarano et al., 1996;

Belyi et al., 2010; Crochu et al., 2004; Delaroque et al., 1999; Feschotte & Gilbert, 2012; Irwin

et al., 2021; Katzourakis & Gifford, 2010; H. Liu et al., 2010; Maori et al., 2007). A large

proportion of EVEs are segmented and non-functional (Arbuckle et al., 2010; Katzourakis &

Gifford, 2010; Tarlinton et al., 2006). There are, however, examples of viral integrations

providing novel adaptive functions and selective advantage to the eukaryotic organism that

carries them. For example, some EVEs can confer protection to their host against genetically

related viruses (Armezzani et al., 2014; Frank & Feschotte, 2017; Horie & Tomonaga, 2019).

Other EVEs are also involved in placentation in mammals (Lavialle et al., 2013; Mangeney et

al., 2007) and synaptic plasticity in animals (Ashley et al., 2018; Campillos et al., 2006).

In general, for viral endogenization events that provide hosts with novel functions, co-option

typically involves individual viral genes rather than entire viral genomes. However, in some

parasitoid wasp species, entire portions of large double-stranded DNA (dsDNA) viruses have

been integrated and perform crucial functions to the wasp's life cycle. Indeed, the wasps use

the virus-derived particles to deliver virulence proteins that suppress the immune response of

the wasp's host and spark other physiological changes that ensure successful parasitization by

the wasp larva (Bézier, Herbinière, et al., 2009; Burke et al., 2013; J.-M. Drezen et al., 2017;

Strand & Burke, 2012, 2014; Volkoff et al., 2010).

At least seven viral endogenization events occurred in independent wasp lineages, each

involving the domestication of large dsDNA viruses (Burke, 2019; Burke et al., 2021; Di

Giovanni et al., 2020; J.-M. Drezen et al., 2022; Guinet et al., 2023). These viral endogenization

events can be classified into different categories based on the nature of the virus that has

been endogenized. The first one involves endogenized nudivirus sequences, leading to the

production of bracoviruses (BVs) and Virus-Like-Particles (VLPs; particles made of viral

envelopes containing wasp proteins and no DNA) (Bézier, Herbinière, et al., 2009; Burke et al.,

2018; Pichon et al., 2015). The second one involves the endogenization of a viral ancestor

(characterised by a conserved set of genes) from a still uncharacterized virus family in two

distinct Ichneumonidae lineages (Banchinae and Campopleginae), producing Ichnovirus (IV)

particles (Béliveau et al., 2015; Gundersen-Rindal et al., 2013; Strand & Burke, 2014; Volkoff

et al., 2010; Volkoff & Cusson, 2020). The production of these particles involves the expression

of several intronless genes tightly clustered into wasp genome regions called IVSPERs

(Ichnovirus Structural Protein Encoding Regions) (Lorenzi et al., 2019; Volkoff et al., 2010,

2012). The last viral endogenization category involves filamentous viruses related to

hytrosaviruses, probably allowing wasps to produce VLPs (Burke et al., 2021; Di Giovanni et

al., 2020; Guinet et al., 2023; Wey et al., 2020).

So far, three of the seven endogenization events described in parasitoid wasps correspond to

the integration of nudivirus sequences. The Nudiviridae family, which diverged 220 MA from

the well-known Baculoviridae family, comprises viruses infecting arthropods (Abd-Alla et al.,

2008; Jehle et al., 2013; Thézé et al., 2011; Y. Wang et al., 2012). Integration of nudivirus

sequences have been described in genome of arthropods including several insects (Bézier et

al., 2015; Burand et al., 2012; R.-L. Cheng et al., 2014, 2020; S. Liu et al., 2020, 2021; Y. Wang

et al., 2007; Y. Zhang et al., 2020), but, except in parasitoid wasps, these integrations were not

reported as virus domestication since the function of any of the viral sequences has not been

studied.

The integration of sequences from a deltanudivirus (Petersen et al., 2022) in the ancestor of

Braconidae Microgastrinae wasps 100 MYA led this lineage, currently comprising at least

46000 species, to produce BV particles, which are composed of a viral envelope enclosing

capsids containing dsDNA circular molecules harbouring virulence genes (Bézier, Annaheim,

et al., 2009; Herniou et al., 2013; Murphy et al., 2008; Thézé et al., 2011). More recently, the

integration of alphanudivirus sequences was demonstrated in the braconid *Fopius arisanus*

(Burke et al., 2018) and more unexpectedly in the ichneumonid *Venturia canescens* (Pichon et

al., 2015). In these parasitoid wasps, the endogenization event led to the production of VLPs

(Burke et al., 2018; Burke, 2019; Pichon et al., 2015). Several lines of evidence have suggested

that the alphanudivirus integration event in *V. canescens* was more recent than the

deltanudivirus integration event in an ancient braconid wasp (100 MYA) (Murphy et al., 2008;

Pichon et al., 2015; Thézé et al., 2011). Indeed, first, the nudivirus integration event has been

described up to now in a single campoplegine wasp species. Second, the viral genes integrated

in *V. canescens* are less dispersed in the wasp genome than the BV genome in braconid wasps

(Bézier, Annaheim, et al., 2009; Burke et al., 2014; Mao et al., 2023; Pichon et al., 2015),

possibly because fewer genomic rearrangements had time to occur in Campopleginae. It has

also been shown that in VcENV, losses of certain core nudivirus functions (*i.e.*: proteins

involved in capsid formation) are due to pseudogenization involving accumulation of

mutations rather than complete loss of genes or genomic regions (Leobold et al., 2018). The

fact that pseudogenized nudiviral sequences have been maintained in VcENV and are not

completely eroded could be an indication that the nudivirus integration is more recent in this

species (Leobold et al., 2018).

So far, *Venturia canescens* was the only described representative of Campopleginae wasps

with an integrated alphanudivirus (Burke, 2019; Burke et al., 2021; Pichon et al.,

2015). Because *V. canescens* belongs to the subfamily Campopleginae, known to harbour

ichnoviruses, initially the VLPs were thought to derive from IVSPER expression (Reineke et al.,

2006). However, sequencing of the wasp's genome identified only a few pseudogenized

IVSPER genes, and it was formally demonstrated that the VLPs are in fact of nudiviral origin

(Pichon et al., 2015). The alphanudivirus integrated in the Campopleginae wasp *V. canescens*,

named "Venturia canescens Endogenous Nudivirus" (VcENV), allows the production VLPs,

which consist of a membrane enveloping virulence proteins that protect the wasp eggs from

the lepidopteran host immune system after oviposition (Bedwin, 1979; Feddersen et al., 1986;

Pichon et al., 2015; Reineke et al., 2006; Rotheram, 1967, 1973; Salt, 1965). Three virulence

proteins have been described in VcVLPs: VLP1, VLP2 and VLP3, which are respectively a Rho

GTPase activating protein, a phospholipid hydroperoxide glutathione peroxidase and a

neprilysin (Asgari et al., 2002; Hellers et al., 1996; Pichon et al., 2015; Reineke et al., 2002;

Theopold et al., 1994). Hence, whilst two genera of Nudivirus have been endogenized in

different wasp lineages, the evolutionary trajectories they have undertaken since integration

have given rise to strikingly different particles but with similar functions (Burke, 2019; J.-M.

Drezen et al., 2017).

In Campopleginae, nudiviral integration is only known from *V. canescens*. Since whole genome

data is available only for a few species, it is still unclear whether this event is really restricted

to one or a few species or if it is more widespread in campoplegine wasps. To investigate this

issue, we selected a genus, *Campoplex*, that is putatively closely related to *V. canescens*

(Santos et al., 2022).

In this study, we obtained the complete genome sequence of two *Campoplex* species, one of

which corresponds to *Campoplex capitator*, the main parasitoid of the vineyard pest *Lobesia*

botrana (J. Moreau et al., 2010; Papura et al., 2016; Thiéry et al., 2011). These species and

their endogenized nudiviruses offered the opportunity to compare domesticated virus

genomes and the produced particles to better understand the early mechanisms at the basis

of viral domestication and whether these domestication events followed the same

evolutionary trajectories.

Results

Two new Campopleginae wasp genomes of the *Campoplex* genera

To investigate mechanisms involved in nudiviral domestication in Campopleginae wasps, we aimed to obtain genomes of *Campoplex* species, which are phylogenetically close to *V. canescens*. For this purpose, we sequenced the genome of *C. capitator* and *Campoplex nolae* using long-read and short-read sequencing technologies. The genome assembly generated for *C. capitator* is 261 Mb long and composed of 630 contigs (generated by PacBio sequencing), while that of *C. nolae* is 218 Mb long and composed of 4 593 contigs (generated by Illumina and Nanopore sequencing) (see detailed information in supplementary data Table S1). The quality of these genomes, with low levels of fragmentation (N50 = 7,8 Mb for *C. capitator* and 1,8 Mb for *C. nolae*; see Table S1) and a good genome completeness (96% and 94% of complete hymenopteran BUSCOs for *C. capitator* and *C. nolae* respectively; see Table S2) allowed the description of integrated viruses (see next paragraph). Gene models of *C. capitator* were predicted using transcriptomic data obtained after RNA sequencing of wasp samples. As no transcriptomic data was available for *C. nolae*, gene models were generated using protein sequences of *C. capitator* predicted previously. In total, 11 288 and 13 929 genes models have been predicted in *C. capitator* and *C. nolae* respectively.

The endogenized nudivirus genomes within the *Campoplex* genomes

We identified 47 genes of viral origin in both wasp genomes (Table1 and Table S3). Out of the 32 nudivirus core genes, 23 have been found in the *Campoplex* genomes (Table 1). Among these genes, some encode key viral functions in baculoviruses such as viral transcription (*p47* and *lef* genes), DNA amplification (*helicase*), envelope composition/infectiosity (*Ac81, p33* and *pif* genes) and virion morphogenesis (*vlf-1*). These 47 genes are grouped into 4 clusters in both genomes (Figure 1 for *C. capitator* and Figure S1 for *C. nolae*). These clusters are dense in viral genes and are identical in gene content and order between the two species (Figure1, Figure S1 and Table 2).

In *V. canescens*, remnants of some nudivirus genes, notably those involved in DNA amplification and capsid formation, have been found as pseudogenes (Leobold et al., 2018). Therefore, for each missing nudivirus gene, we searched for remnant sequences in both *Campoplex* genomes. Several pseudogenes have been identified, some located inside or around the virus clusters (Figure 1 and Figure S1), others such as *38K* located outside (Table 1). Genes that are typically involved in DNA amplification (*integrase, FEN-1* and *DNApol*) and capsid formation (*p6.9, 38K* and *vp39*) in baculoviruses have been found pseudogenized in both *Campoplex* species (Table 2), except for *38K* which couldn't be found in *C. nolae*, probably due to the higher fragmentation level of this genome.

No traces of Ichnovirus remnants in *Campoplex* genomes

As remnants of Ichnovirus were found in *V. canescens* (Pichon et al., 2015), we also searched

for sequences of IVSPER genes in the *Campopex* genomes. In both *Campoplex* genomes, no

trace of ichnovirus could be found using the IVSPER protein sequences (see material and

method for details).

The endogenized nudiviruses in *Campoplex* correspond to Alphanudiviruses

Viral sequences found in both *Campoplex* genomes share high similarity with nudivirus

sequences (Table S3). We therefore aimed to place these new endogenized viruses in the

context of the phylogeny of Naldaviricetes, a class of virus comprising Baculoviridae,

Nudiviridae, Hytrosaviridae and Nimaviridae. Using protein sequences from 34 genes (21

baculoviruses core genes and 13 nudivirus core genes, see Table S4 for more details), the

phylogenetic analysis places these endogenized viruses inside the Nudivirus family and as

sister to VcENV, which belongs to the Alphanudivirus genus (Figure 2). Due to their placement

in the Nudivirus family, we called these genomes CcapiENV and CnolaENV for Campoplex

capitator Endogenous Nudivirus and Campoplex nolae Endogenous Nudivirus respectively.

These two new virus genomes are from now on the closest relatives of VcENV.

199 Evidence for a single nudivirus endogenization event in Campopleginae wasps

Given the phylogenetic position of these integrated alphanudiviruses in *Campoplex* (Figure 2),

we then investigated whether these nudiviruses resulted from the same integration event as

the one for VcENV. Wasp genes around the virus clusters were found to be the same in both

C. capitator and *V. canescens* species, indicating that the endogenization event occurred at

the same place in both genomes (Figure 3). This observation confirms that these viruses come

from the same endogenization event.

207 Evolution of the endogenized nudiviruses in Campopleginae wasps

We compared the three endogenized nudivirus genomes in Campopleginae wasps to gain

insight on the mechanisms that are operating during the early processes of virus

domestication. The gene content in these viruses is almost identical, with only a few

differences lying in the gene position, in the number of copies for certain genes and in the

identified pseudogene (Table 2). However, while all other genes are present in all genomes,

vlf-1 was found only in CcapiENV and CnolaENV, this gene being found in a pseudogenized

form in VcENV (Table 2). In baculoviruses, VLF-1 is a nucleocapsid protein that participates in

virion maturation, in the integration and excision of the viral genome and in viral transcription

(McLachlin & Miller, 1994; Vanarsdall et al., 2006; Yang & Miller, 1998, 1999). Duplicated

copies of *Ac81* and *OrNVorf47-like* have been found only in VcENV (Table 2), indicating that

those copies could have originated from duplication events occurring after speciation. Copies

of *pif-5* have been found in all genomes, some in similar locations inside the clusters (Table 2

and Figure 3), indicating that these copies might come from a duplication event that had

happened in the common ancestors of all these wasps. The organisation in clusters is also

highly preserved among these endogenized viruses in Campopleginae wasps, with CcapiENV

clusters 1 and 2 being almost identical to the VcENV clusters 3 and 2 (Figure 3). CcapiENV

cluster 4 and its VcENV equivalent (cluster 4) seems to have endured some genomic shuffling,

but not enough to erase syntenies between the two genomes (Figure 3).

Impact of endogenization on nudivirus gene organisation

Integrated alphanudivirus genomes were compared to free virus genomes in order to evaluate

the impact of viral domestication after integration. Gene order among free nudiviruses is fairly

well conserved (Figure 4 A), but gene order was globally lost following viral endogenization

(Figure 4 B), suggesting that loss of certain syntenic regions might be part of the viral

domestication process.

We also compared the endogenized alphanudiviruses in Campopleginae wasps to other

endogenized alphanudiviruses such as FaENV (Fopius arisanus Endogenous Nudivirus) and

NlENV (Nilaparvata lugens Endogenous Nudivirus). First, as described before, the viral genome

structure in Campopleginae wasps is conserved after integration (Figure 4 C). However, for

each independent alphanudivirus integration, the genomes seem to have been shuffled

differently (Figure 4 C). Viral genome shuffling after integration might be part of a viral

domestication process, as developed in Burke and collaborators (Burke et al., 2018; see

discussion).

Selection pressures acting on nudivirus genes

To estimate the selection pressures acting on *C. capitator*, *C. nolae* and *V. canescens* genes,

dN/dS ratios were calculated for 8 787 cellular genes and the 41 endogenized nudivirus genes.

For the vast majority of genes (13152 out of 13351 values), the dN/dS ratio is lower than 1

(Figure 5). Nonetheless, dN/dS ratios obtained for nudivirus genes are higher than the ones of

cellular genes, with an average dN/dS ratio of 0.17 for cellular genes and 0.73 for nudivirus

genes. Focusing on nudivirus gene evolution according to their function, genes putatively

involved in DNA amplification (*helicase*) and viral transcription (*lefs* and *p47*) have a lower

dN/dS ratio than genes putatively involved in infectivity and envelope protein production (*pifs*,

vp91, *p33* and *p74*) (Figure 5). Gauthier and colleagues had also found equivalent results on

nudiviral genes associated with Braconid wasps (Gauthier et al., 2018, 2021). Furthermore,

duplicated nudiviral genes in the three Campopleginae species have a rather high dN/dS ratio,

notably the copies of *OrNVorf41-like* and *pif-5* (Table S5).

CcapiENV gene expression

Virus gene expression activity within the wasps has been investigated through transcriptome

analyses performed on *C. capitator* samples of pools of organs from male and female

individuals. Because virus genes participate in the production of virus-derived particles in the

ovaries for several wasp species, notably in *V.canescens* (J. Drezen et al., 2006; Pichon et al.,

2015; Stoltz, 1990), we assumed that CcapiENV genes would be mostly expressed in *C.*

capitator ovaries. As expected, all CcapiENV genes are expressed in adult wasp ovaries (Figure

S2 and Table S6). Transcripts from some nudivirus genes are also visible in venom glands. The

head-thorax samples of female wasps appear to be almost free of viral transcripts, with only

minute amounts of transcripts being measured. CcapiENV genes are practically not expressed

in males, neither in testis nor in head-thorax samples, although testis samples show a slightly

higher number of transcripts than head-thorax samples (Table S6). The *pif-2* gene appears to

be an exception as it is weakly expressed in head-thorax samples of both males and female

wasps.

Regulatory sequences have also been studied in *C. capitator* in order to understand regulation

mechanisms leading to the expression of endogenized nudivirus genes. However, no

congruent results could be observed as the type of promoter (baculovirus early, baculovirus

late, VcENV late) does not necessarily match the expected expression kinetics of the CcapiENV

genes based on the transcription kinetic described for their VcENV orthologs (Cerqueira de

Araujo et al., 2022; Table S7).

C. capitator produces VLPs that are similar in morphology to those produced by

V. canescens

After identifying the endogenized nudivirus in the *Campoplex* genomes, we investigated

whether *C. capitator* produces VLPs as described in *V. canescens*. Electron microscopy

revealed the presence of particles in the calyx region of *C. capitator* ovaries, a specialised

portion of the ovaries that produces virus-derived particles in braconid wasps and

Ichneumonid wasps (Bézier, Annaheim, et al., 2009; Burke & Strand, 2012; Pichon et al., 2015;

Volkoff et al., 2010). These particles in *C. capitator* are referred to as CcapiVLPs (Figure 6), and

are almost morphologically identical to VcVLPs (Pichon et al., 2015). CcapiVLPs are composed

of a membrane enclosing an electron-dense body (Figure 6E) and are massively present in the

lumen (Figure 6 A and B) while only a few are visible in the cytoplasm and cell nuclei (Figure 6

C). Virogenic stromas, electron-dense masses composed of proteins that form viral particles

in other wasps (Bézier, Herbinière, et al., 2009; Pichon et al., 2015), are visible in calyx cell

nuclei (Figure 6C), along with VLPs and empty envelopes (Figure 6F). As described for VcVLPs

(Pichon et al., 2015), CcapiVLPs appear to be be produced inside the nucleus by virogenic

stromas and transit through the nuclear membrane and then through the cytoplasmic

membrane by budding to finally end in the calyx lumen (Figure 6 D,E and F).

C. capitator and *V. canescens* VLPs have a similar composition but the virulence

protein contents are different

We proceeded to determine whether the protein composition of the VLPs and their content

were the same between *C. capitator* and *V. canescens*. For CcapiVLPs, 28 proteins of nudivirus

origin were detected by mass spectrometry (Table S8). In the majority of cases, proteins

contained in VcVLPs deriving from VcENV genes were also found in CcapiVLPs. For instance,

all the VcVLP proteins involved in envelope formation in baculoviruses were found in purified

CcapiVLPs. These include all the PIF proteins, P74, VP91 and P33 proteins. However,

OrNvorf46-like and a copy of PIF-5 proteins are present in VcVLPs but not in CcapiVLPs (Table

S8). Similarly, OrNVorf18-like, OrNVorf47-like, OrNVorf79-like, OrNVorf90-like and

OrNVorf120-like proteins appear to be present in CcapiVLPs but were not detected in VcVLPs

(Table S8).

A large number of non-viral proteins, which should include virulence proteins, could be

identified by mass spectrometry within the VLPs (Table S9). Proteins described in VcVLPs were

first sought in the CcapiVLP protein dataset to determine whether the same proteins are

enveloped in VLPs in both wasp species. The VLP1 (PHGPx), VLP2 (RhoGAP) and VLP3

(Neprilysin) proteins of VcVLPs were not found in CcapiVLPs. Candidate VLP virulence proteins

were selected according to their peptide abundance (PSM for Peptide-Spectrum Matches)

value and only proteins with a PSM value higher than 50 were retained (Table S10). Some

proteins that have been described in parasitoid wasp venoms (Inwood et al., 2023; S. Moreau

& Asgari, 2015; Poirié et al., 2014), such as a serpin, a peroxiredoxin, a calreticulin and an

aminopeptidase, have been found in CcapiVLPs. Further investigation on the serpin showed

that the gene encoding this protein is a member of a multigenic family, which comprises 15

members in *Campoplex spp*. and 4 in *V. canescens*. While the four copies found in *V. canescens*

have orthologous sequences in *Campoplex spp.*, the serpin identified in CcapiVLPs is more

distant, with only one ortholog found in *C. nolae* (Figure S3). This serpin appears to be specific

to *Campoplex* species and therefore represents an interesting virulence protein candidate.

Discussion

The sequencing of two new genomes of *Campoplex* wasps has provided the opportunity to describe, together with the previous sequencing of the *V. canescens* wasp genome (Mao et al., 2023; Pichon et al., 2015), the early events involved in the domestication of alphanudiviruses that these wasps have endogenized. Our results convincingly show that the endogenized nudiviruses in the *Campoplex* species correspond to the same endogenization event as the one first described in *V. canescens*. The few and compact viral gene clusters, together with the presence of visible traces of pseudogenes, strongly suggest that this endogenization event is more recent than the one described in Microgastrinae braconid wasps. Furthermore, strong synteny is evident between the three endogenized alphanudiviruses, which contrasts with total lack of synteny with the known free nudiviruses for which sequences are available. This result suggests that a very early process required in viral domestication involves major genomic rearrangements, in accordance with similar observations made in the case of FaENV (Burke et al., 2018). Comparisons between the endogenized nudiviruses in Campopleginae wasps reveal not only conserved synteny of genes but also very high gene similarities, suggesting that evolutionary constraints may be acting to conserve gene functions, to enable coordinated expression leading to VLP formation. Finally, VLPs produced by *V. canescens* and *C. capitator* wasps are very similar, but genes coding for the VLP proteins involved in infectiosity are undergoing higher selection pressures and the VLP

341 virulence protein contents are totally different, illustrating that selection pressures exerted by

342 wasp's host are most probably acting and resulting in tailored-virulence protein contents

343 within VLPs.

A recent and unique endogenization event of an alphanudivirus in Campopleginae wasps

CcapiENV and CnolaENV, the nudiviruses integrated in *C. capitator* and *C. nolae* genomes

respectively, are composed of 47 nudiviral genes each. These viruses belong to the Nudivirus

family, especially to alphanudiviruses, and are the closest known relative of VcENV, the only

endogenized nudivirus that had been previously described in Campopleginae wasps (Figure

2). Comparing the insertion location of CcapiENV and VcENV, the same wasp genes in the same

order have been found around the viral clusters in both species (Figure 3). These observations

indicate that these two new viruses come from the same endogenization event as the one of

VcENV, which occurred in the common ancestor of the wasps harbouring them.

The integration of the alphanudivirus in Campopleginae appears to have occurred more

recently than the endogenisation of BV in Braconidae. First, the wasp phylogeny indicates that

the subfamily Campopleginae is a younger lineage than the microgastroid complex (Burke et

al., 2021; Murphy et al., 2008; Sharanowski et al., 2021) and not all representatives of the

Campopleginae family appear to possess nudivirus (such as wasps of the genus *Hyposoter* or

Dusona) (Burke et al., 2021), indicating that nudivirus integration is not ancestral to the

Campopleginae and occurred later in a specific Campopleginae lineage. Furthermore, in both

Campoplex species, the distribution of the endogenized virus genes shows that the viral

genome is not very dispersed, forming four highly conserved clusters within the wasp

genomes (Figure 1). This organisation in clusters has been previously described in VcENV (Mao

et al., 2023; Pichon et al., 2015) and in FaENV (Burke et al., 2018), which have five and nine

clusters respectively. In bracoviruses, nudivirus clusters have also been characterised but virus

genes are more dispersed in the wasp genomes (Bézier, Annaheim, et al., 2009; Burke et al.,

2014, 2018; Gauthier et al., 2021). These observations would indicate that alphanudiviruses

integrated in parasitoid wasps have undergone fewer rearrangement events than the BV

integrated in the Braconidae. Also, it was possible to find pseudogenized nudiviral genes in

Campoplex wasps and in *V. canescens* (Leobold et al., 2018), whereas no pseudogenes were

characterised for BVs, which again suggests that the alphanudivirus integration event in

Campopleginae wasps is more recent because traces of gene loss are still detectable.

Genome rearrangement seems to be part of the viral domestication process

Genomic rearrangements appear to be a part of the viral domestication process in parasitoid wasps. Indeed, the viral organisation of nudivirus genes of the Alphanudivirus genus is very well conserved among free Alphanudiviruses viruses infecting arthropods (Figure 4 A). While this viral organisation is kept in free viruses, the genomes of endogenized nudiviruses in Campopleginae wasps appear to have lost this well conserved viral organisation, with their genome being rearranged in their host genome (Figure 4 B). This phenomenon of genomic rearrangement after integration is shared by the viruses that have been independently endogenized in different lineages of insects and produce integrated viruses with distinct organisations (Figure 4 C). A similar observation was made in FaENV where the viral genome has been shuffled after endogenization in the wasp genome (Burke et al., 2018). It has been suggested that these early rearrangement events occurring after integration could lead to the deactivation of the virus replication process by scattering the virus genome and could correspond to a founder effect in the process of domestication (Burke et al., 2018).

Key viral functions and the organisation in clusters were kept after domestication

CcapiENV, CnolaENV and VcENV share almost exactly the same content in genes (Table 2). The 22 core nudivirus genes found in VcENV were also identified in *Campoplex* endogenized

viruses (Table 1). Genes necessary for VLP production were kept in these Campopleginae

wasps. It has been shown for example that genes such as *lef* genes that are involved in viral

transcription are particularly well conserved among wasps that have endogenized a nudivirus

(Bézier, Annaheim, et al., 2009; Bézier, Herbinière, et al., 2009; Burke, 2019; Burke et al., 2018;

Burke & Strand, 2012; J.-M. Drezen et al., 2022; Pichon et al., 2015; Strand & Burke, 2012).

Silencing of these genes leads to the suppression or reduction of particle production in *V.*

canescens and *Microplitis demolitor* (Burke et al., 2013; Cerqueira de Araujo et al., 2022).

Furthermore, in Campopleginae, genes involved in viral transcription (*p47* and *lef* genes) and

DNA amplification (*helicase*) are under strong conservative selection pressures compared to

genes typically involved in envelope formation and infectiosity (*p33*, *Ac81* and *pif* genes)

(Figure 5). The same observation was made in braconid wasps harbouring a BV and in

Leptopilina wasps harbouring an endogenized filamentous virus (Di Giovanni et al., 2020;

Gauthier et al., 2021), showing that the viral transcription function is globally maintained in

all these viral domestication events. Genes coding for envelope components (such as *pif*

genes) have also been conserved in BV, FaENV and Campopleginae endogenized nudiviruses,

although their sequences differ more than the ones of *lef* genes for instance (Bézier,

Annaheim, et al., 2009; Bézier, Herbinière, et al., 2009; Burke, 2019; Burke et al., 2018; Burke

& Strand, 2012; Di Giovanni et al., 2020; J.-M. Drezen et al., 2022; Gauthier et al., 2021; Pichon

et al., 2015; Strand & Burke, 2012). In baculoviruses, PIFs proteins are involved in the entry of

viral particles into the cells of the lepidopteran host's digestive tract (Boogaard, 2018; Kikhno

et al., 2002; Zheng et al., 2017). As they form the interface between the particle and the host

cells, these proteins are therefore likely to diverge depending on the host that the particles

infect.

Regarding the viral genome structure, the endogenized virus genome structure is organised in

clusters of viral genes in Campopleginae wasps, in which the gene order was preserved after

wasp diversification. VcENV, CcapiENV and CnolaENV are all composed of three main

conserved nudiviral clusters, with observable syntenies between species (Figure 3, Figure 4).

For instance, the composition and gene order of the clusters are the same in both CcapiENV

and CnolaENV (Figure 1 and Figure S1). Comparing CcapiENV with VcENV, genes of CcapiENV

clusters 1 and 2 have exactly the same order as genes in VcENV clusters 3 and 2 (Figure 3).

Nonetheless, the order of viral genes between CcapiENV cluster 4 and VcENV clusters 4 and 5

is less conserved, indicating that certain recombination events took place after speciation of

the parasitoid wasps hosting them (Figure 3). In contrast, pseudogenes identified in

Campoplex and *V. canescens* genomes are dispersed compared to functional genes (Table S3)

(Leobold et al., 2018; Mao et al., 2023).

Loss of genes not essential for VLP production

Remnants of the majority of genes that have been pseudogenized in VcENV can be found in

CcapiENV and CnolaENV. Some pseudogenes, such as *OrNVorf130-like*, were not found in

CcapiENV or CnolaENV. As pseudogenes can be very degraded, it can sometimes be difficult

to detect them, but it is also possible that these genes have been lost by deletion as described

in bracoviruses (Bézier, Annaheim, et al., 2009; Burke et al., 2014).

Genes involved in capsid formation in baculoviruses have been lost for the most part (see *vlf-*

1 below) in all Campopleginae wasps (Table 2). More specifically, FaENV and BVs have kept

genes such as *38K* and *vp39* (Bézier, Annaheim, et al., 2009; Burke et al., 2014, 2018), genes

that are involved in baculoviruses in nucleocapsid assembly and DNA packaging (Danquah et

al., 2012; Katsuma & Kokusho, 2017; Lai et al., 2018; Wu et al., 2006), but these genes are

pseudogenized in *Campoplex* wasps and *V. canescens* (Leobold et al., 2018; present study).

Genes involved in DNA packaging such as *integrase* can be found in BVs but were lost by

pseudogenization in Campopleginae wasps producing VLPs, which are devoid of DNA (Burke,

2019; Burke et al., 2013, 2018; J.-M. Drezen et al., 2022; Pichon et al., 2015).

Specific adaptations of Campopleginae wasps to produce VLPs

During virus domestication, the alphanudivirus genome has been well conserved among

Campopleginae wasps. Gene content and genome structure are similar between

CcapiENV/CnolaENV and VcENV. However, notable differences can be observed between

these genomes, probably being hallmarks of different adaptation to the wasp's hosts.

Vlf-1 is present in *Campoplex,* but not in *V. canescens*

One of the major differences between the two new genomes and VcENV is the presence of

vlf-1 in CcapiENV and CnolaENV, while this gene has been found pseudogenized in VcENV

(Table 2). In baculoviruses, *vlf-1* is involved in several processes. The VLF-1 protein is an

integrase that binds to specific DNA sites, catalyses DNA rearrangements and participates in

the integration and excision of the viral genome (McLachlin & Miller, 1994). This protein,

which is included in the nucleocapsid (Yang & Miller, 1998), appears to be necessary for virion

maturation (Vanarsdall et al., 2006) and is involved in the transcription of genes expressed at

very late stages of the viral infection (Yang & Miller, 1999). In CcapiENV, this gene does not

appear to code for a structural VLP protein (Table 1 and Table S8), but is expressed specifically

in wasp ovaries (Figure S2 and Table S6). The *vlf-1* gene may have a function in the

transcription of late expressed genes and could possibly explain why we are not able to

identify the same promoter sequences in CcapiENV and VcENV.

Duplication of nudivirus genes

In giant viruses—dsDNA viruses which exhibit a high level of gene duplications (Filée, 2018;

Legendre et al., 2018) the expansion and reduction of the number of genes seems to be an

adaptive process to respond to new constraints imposed by the host (Boyer et al., 2011; Elde

et al., 2012). Among nudivirus duplicated genes in Campopleginae wasps (Table 2), *Ac81* and

OrNVorf47-like have been found duplicated only in VcENV (Mao et al., 2023; Pichon et al.,

2015). In addition, two extra copies of *pif-5* were found in VcENV and an extra copy of

OrNVorf41-like was identified in CcapiENV and CnolaENV (Figure 1, Figure S1 and Figure 3).

The *OrNVorf41-like* gene belongs to the 11K gene family, which comprises the *Ac145* and

Ac150 genes of the Autographa californica nucleopolyhedrovirus (AcMNPV). *Ac145* and *Ac150*

appear to be involved in oral infectivity, although they are not essential for infection (J.-H.

Zhang et al., 2004). The action of these genes is host-dependent: the deletion of *Ac145*

reduces the infectivity of AcMNPV in the host *Trichoplusia ni,* but not in the host *Heliothis*

virescens. The deletion of *A150* alone has no effect on either host. By deleting both *Ac145* and

Ac150, the infectivity of AcMNPV was decreased in both *T. ni* and *H. virescens* (Lapointe et al.,

2004). It has been proposed that *Ac145* is specifically involved in the initiation of primary

infection while *Ac150* is more involved in the systemic spread of the infection (Beperet et al.,

2015). The extra copy of *OrNVorf41-like* identified in CcapiENV and CnolaENV may therefore

enable infection of different wasp's hosts compared to *V. canescens*.

CcapiVLPs and VcVLP do not share the same VLP content

Regarding the virulence proteins contained in VLPs, *V. canescens* produces VLPs containing

three virulence proteins: VLP1, VLP2 and VLP3. In *C. capitator*, no VcVLP virulence protein

counterparts, nor protein of similar functions, could be found inside CcapiVLPs. Wasp

virulence proteins can be encoded from IV and BV circles or be produced in venom glands

(Burke & Strand, 2014; J.-M. Drezen et al., 2017; Poirié et al., 2009). We therefore searched

for virulence protein candidates which have similar functions to virulence proteins from other

domesticated viruses or venom proteins. Of these virulence protein candidates, we found a

serine protease inhibitor (serpin), which is a protein that has also been detected in venom of

several parasitoid wasps and in MdBV (Microplitis demolitor Bracovirus) (Beck & Strand, 2007;

Inwood et al., 2023; Moreau & Asgari, 2015; Poirié et al., 2014; Quicke & Butcher, 2021). These

proteins have been shown to inhibit the proteolytic cascade leading to the production of

phenoloxidase (PO), involved in the melanisation reaction (Beck & Strand, 2007; Colinet et al.,

2009).

Other proteins described in wasp venoms have also been identified in the proteomic analysis

of CcapiVLP components such as a peroxiredoxin, a calreticulin, and an aminopeptidase.

Peroxiredoxin enzymes protect against oxidative stress and have also been identified in the

venom of the parasitoid wasp *Anisopteromalus calandrae* (Perkin et al., 2015). In the context

of parasitoid wasp-host interactions, this type of enzyme may protect the parasitoid eggs from

detrimental reactive oxygen species generated during oviposition and the encapsulation

response. Calreticulins have been identified in several parasitoid wasps (Cha et al., 2015; De

Graaf et al., 2010; Etebari et al., 2011; Fang et al., 2011; Perkin et al., 2015; L. Wang et al.,

2013; G. Zhang et al., 2006). Several studies have suggested calreticulin works as an

antagonist, competing for binding sites with host calreticulins, thus inhibiting hemocyte

encapsulation (Cha et al., 2015; L. Wang et al., 2013; G. Zhang et al., 2006). Aminopeptidase

activity or proteins have been detected in the venoms of several parasitoid wasps

(Becchimanzi et al., 2020; Dani et al., 2005; Inwood et al., 2023; Mathé-Hubert et al., 2016;

Teng et al., 2017), although the functions of these enzymes in the interaction are not clear

they could be involved in general degradation of host tissues.

It has often been described that genes encoding virulence proteins are part of multigenic

families expanded in species harbouring them. For instance, protein tyrosine phosphatases

(PTP) genes have been found largely duplicated in several BVs in which they code for virulence

proteins (Serbielle et al., 2012). In parasitoid wasps, some venom proteins are derived from

duplicated genes (Casewell et al., 2013; Colinet et al., 2014; Fry et al., 2009; Wong & Belov,

2012), conferring a selective advantage linked to the diversification of venom proteins. Among

all possible candidates (Table S10), we investigated whether these proteins are encoded from

genes included in expanded gene families in *Campoplex* species, with no obvious counterparts

in *V. canescens* genome. In CcapiVLPs, the serpin is the only protein that meets the criteria

described above (see results), establishing it as a major candidate. Thus, it would be

interesting to investigate its function using RNA interference to validate its virulence protein

function.

No support for ichnovirus replacement hypothesis in *Campoplex* species

In the study of Pichon et al. (2015), sequences that appeared to correspond to degraded

remnants of the ichnovirus replication machinery (IVSPERs) were detected in *V. canescens*

genome; this result, combined with a preliminary phylogeny inferred from 28S rRNA

sequences, led the authors to hypothesise that *V. canescens* may have undergone a process

of "endogenous virus replacement", in which an ancestrally present ichnovirus was lost

following the acquisition of the endogenous alphanudivirus. In the present study, we were

unable to corroborate these results (Pichon et al., 2015) as we could not find remnants of a

past ichnovirus integration in the *Campoplex* genomes. Similarly, Burke and collaborators

(Burke et al., 2021) did not find IVSPER sequences in a genome of *Dusona sp.*, one of the

closest relative to *Campoplex* species (Sharanowski et al., 2021). Previous results and our

results suggest that the ichnovirus integration might have happened in the Hyposoter -

Campoletis clade, while the Campoplex - Dusona clade have endogenized an alphanudivirus,

which had been partially lost in *Dusona sp.* (see Sharanowski et al. (2021) for phylogeny).

To conclude, using third generation sequencing technology, it has been possible to describe

new endogenous viruses in parasitoid wasps. The new genomes of two Campopleginae wasps

harbour an alphanudivirus which derive from the same endogenization event as the one of

VcENV in the common wasp ancestor. The description of these new endogenized nudiviruses

sheds light on early evolutionary processes of viral domestication. Comparison with the closely

related *V. canescens* species shows that there are minute differences between the genomes

of endogenized nudiviruses in Campopleginae wasps. However, major differences can be

seen, such as the virulence protein content of VLP which appears to be strikingly different

between *C. capitator* and *V. canescens*, showing early adaptation to wasp's hosts in the

context of viral domestication.

Material and methods

Parasitoid model

Campoplex capitator wasps were obtained after emergence from the lepidopteran host *Lobesia botrana*, a vineyard pest that can grow on *Daphne gnidium* (Loni et al., 2016). Caterpillars of *L. botrana* were sampled from *D. gnidium* shrubs in the natural reserve of Migliarino-San Rossore-Massaciuccoli (Tuscany, Italy). Samplings were carried out in early July of 2019 and 2021, with wasps emerging between June and August (Scaramozzino et al., 2018). *L. botrana* nests were placed individually in test tubes and each tube was monitored every day. Emerging *C. capitator* were used for experiments.

To produce enough wasps for our experiments, a *C. capitator* rearing was maintained as described in (Benelli et al., 2020; Lucchi et al., 2018): *L. botrana* larvae were kept in plastic boxes (20cm D x 15cm W x 10cm H) with a nutritious substrate (30g of agar, 60g of sugar, 50g of alfalfa, 36g of Brewer yeast, 25g of Wesson salt, 180g of wheat sprout, 80g of casein, 4g of sorbic acide, 15g of Wanderzahnt vitamins, 2.5g of cholesterol, 2.5g of tetracyclin, 5mL of propionic acid (99,5%), 2mL of linoleic acid (95%), 5mL of olive oil and 1.5mL of distilled water). After the emergence, adults were kept in the same box for reproduction where the substrate was removed and droplets of honey were added. Once eggs were visible on the box surface, adults were removed and nutritious substrate was added to feed the future larvae. *Campoplex*

capitator females and males were meanwhile kept in plexiglass chambers (40cm D x 25cm W

x 30cm H) with honey to allow their reproduction. L2 to L4 host larvae were put in the

chambers for two hour parasitism periods and then individually reared into small boxes (5cm

Ø x 5cm H) with nutritious substrate. These boxes were monitored every day to check for wasp

emergence and honey was added when larvae were about to pupate. All insects were kept at

25°C and 45% of humidity, with a 16:8 day/night photoperiod.

Meanwhile, a female specimen of *Campoplex nolae* was collected in the wild by active

sweeping at Powdermill Nature Reserve, Rector county, Pennsylvania, USA, and kept in liquid

nitrogen until the time of DNA isolation.

DNA extraction and sequencing

For *C. capitator*, DNA was extracted from one haploid male at emergence using the

MagAttract® HMW DNA Kit (Qiagen). The male wasp tissues were disrupted in a 2 mL tube

containing 200 µL of 1X DPBS. 20 µL of proteinase K, 4 µL of RNAse A and 150µL of buffer AL

were added to the tube. The tube was then mixed carefully and incubated at 56°C at 900 rpm

for 2 hours. The manufacturer's protocol was followed from step 4 to step 16. Total DNA was

finally eluted in 100 µL of TE buffer (10 mM Tris-Cl, 1 mM EDTA, pH 8.0) and quantified using

the Qubit™ DNA HS assay kit (Invitrogen) and the Qubit2.0 fluorometer (Invitrogen). DNA

quality and contamination were checked by measurement of 260/280 and 260/230 OD ratios

using the Varian Cary® 50 Scan spectrophotometer. Total DNA was then stored at 4°C. The

library was prepared and sequenced using the PacBio Sequel II technology by the Gentyane

platform (France).

For *C. nolae*, extraction was performed using the MagAttract® HMW DNA Kit (Qiagen),

following the manufacturer's protocol with the whole specimen immersed in extraction buffer

and proteinase K overnight. An additional purification step using Agencourt AMPure XP beads

(Beckman Coulter, Brea, U.S.A.) at 0.5X was used to remove small fragments. Genomic

libraries were prepared for parallel sequencing in short-read (Illumina) and long-read

(Nanopore) platforms: the Illumina library was prepared using the Kapa HyperPrep kit (Kapa

Biosystems, Wilmington, MA). A-tailing, end-repair and ligation reactions were performed at

a quarter volume relative to the standard protocol, while library amplification was performed

at full volume. Custom, dual-indexing adapter-primers were used to allow for in silico de-

multiplexing of each sample (Glenn et al., 2016). Following stub ligation and PCR, adapter-

dimers were removed by performing a 0.8X bead cleaning using AMPure beads. The library

was pooled with other samples at equimolar concentrations and sequenced at 4 nM as single

lanes on Illumina NovaSeq 6000 S4 platform (2x150; Illumina Inc., San Diego, CA). The library

for long-read data was prepared using the Nanopore ligation kit, complemented by reagents

from the NEBNext Ultra II library prep kit (New England Biolabs, Ipswich, Massachusetts,

U.S.A.), and then sequenced at a MinION platform (Oxford Nanopore Technologies, Oxford,

U.K.) using the manufacturer's specifications.

For both wasp species, raw data are available in NCBI (accession number of

the BioProject: PRJNA936130).

RNA extraction and sequencing

Emerging *C. capitator* wasps were dissected in order to obtain ovaries where CcapiVLP are

produced. Venom glands and head-thorax of female adults and testis and head-thorax of male

adults were also dissected in order to investigate expression of CcapiENV genes outside of the

calyx region and in males. For all samples, two pools were analysed. Pools were composed of

5 individuals for head-thorax for both males and females, 21 female venom glands, 5 ovary

pairs and 15 male testis pairs. Total RNA was extracted from the 10 pools in total

using TRIzol Reagent (Invitrogen) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Only the

isopropanol step was replaced by cold absolute ethanol (3 volumes per sample) and total RNA

was finally resuspended in 30μL of RNAse free water. RNA quantity of each pool was

quantified using the Qubit^{TM} RNA HS assay kit (Invitrogen) designed for the Qubit2.0

fluorometer (Invitrogen). Samples of extracted RNA were then stored at -80°C.

For genome annotation, total RNA was extracted from two pools of four entire emerging

female wasps using the NucleoSpin®RNA kit (Macherey-Nagel). Total RNA was finally

resuspended in 40μL of RNAse free water. RNA quantity of the two pools was quantified using

the Qubit™ RNA HS assay kit (Invitrogen) designed for the Qubit2.0 fluorometer. Samples of

extracted RNA were then stored at -80°C.

The sequencing of library preparations and the generation of paired-end reads were

performed on an Illumina platform by the Novogene company (UK). Raw data are available in

NCBI (accession number of the BioProject: PRJNA936130).

Genome assembly and annotation

For *C. capitator*, genome and K-mer sizes were estimated beforehand using KmerGenie (Chikhi

& Medvedev, 2014). Raw reads were then corrected and trimmed using respectively Canu–

correct and Canu–trim modules (Canu software v1.8) (Koren et al., 2017) in order to improve

the base accuracy and to retrieve high quality sequence portions only. The genome was then

assembled using the Canu–assemble module. The newly assembled genome was polished

using Racon (v1.4.21) with the longest 80X raw reads to further improve the base accuracy

using the longest raw reads. In parallel, *C. nolae* raw reads from Nanopore sequencing were

filtered using Filtlong (v.0.2.1) before being assembled using Flye (v.2.9-b1768) (Kolmogorov

et al., 2020). The produced assembly was then polished with Hypo (v.1.0.3.flye) using the

Illumina reads. Scripts for *C. nolae* genome assembly are available at

https://gitlab.in2p3.fr/marie.cariou/campoplex_assembly/.

The assembled genome completeness was assessed with BUSCO (Benchmarking Universal

Single-Copy Orthologs, v5.4.2) (Manni et al., 2021) using Insecta and Hymenoptera lineage

datasets (odb10) and genome contamination was checked with Blobtools (v1.1.1) (Laetsch &

Blaxter, 2017) for both genomes.

For both genomes, repeated elements were annotated *de novo* using the TEdenovo pipeline

comprised in the REPET pipeline (v2.5) (Flutre et al., 2011). Two rounds of the TEannot pipeline

(contained in the REPER pipeline) were then used to annotate repeated elements using

existing databases. Repeated elements were then masked using Bedtools (v.2.29.1) (Quinlan

& Hall, 2010) before gene prediction. Gene models were generated for *C. capitator* using

BRAKER-2 (v2.1.6) (Brůna et al., 2021) with assembled transcriptomes by spades (v3.15.5)

(Bushmanova et al., 2019). Models were then functionally annotated using InterProScan

(v5.53-87.0) (Blum et al., 2021) and blastp (NCBIblast+ v2.13.0) with the nr database

(downloaded the 14th of April 2023), before being polished by AGAT (v1.0.0) (Dainat et al.,

2023). Proteins were extracted from gene models using the agat_sp_extract_sequences.pl

tool from AGAT software. Finally, the genome completeness was assessed again using the

protein sequences with BUSCO.

In total, 44 CcapiENV genes were annotated with the automated annotation process. Using

the gene models predicted previously, additional viral genes were then annotated by

reciprocal blasts: translated sequences from predicted genes were aligned using blast tools on

the NCBI nr database filtered for sequences of endogenous and exogenous nudiviruses.

Aligned sequences were then extracted and realigned on the complete NCBI nr database. The

final Blast outputs were filtered to keep only sequences which aligned on sequences of

endogenous and exogenous nudiviruses reported in the database.

To annotate nudivirus genes on the *C. nolae* genome, open reading frames were predicted

using orfipy (v0.0.4) (Singh & Wurtele, 2021). Nudivirus genes were then annotated by

reciprocal blasts using translated sequences from predicted ORFs. Miniprot (v0.9-0) (H. Li,

2023) was also used to align *C. capitator* proteins on *C. nolae* genome and validate previously

annotated nudivirus genes. Miniprot gene models were also used for gene clustering in the

dN/dS ratio analysis.

Pseudogenized genes were identified by reciprocal blast: tblastn was used first to map

nudivirus proteins on the wasp genomes. Hits were then verified by blastx to map potential

nudiviral nucleotide sequences on the NCBI nr database. Proteins corresponding to Nucleotide

sequences mapping back on nudivirus were kept and incomplete and non-transcribed

sequences were considered as pseudogenes.

Ichnovirus sequences were searched using a home-made pipeline where genomic IVSPER

sequences of *Hyposoter dydimator* and *Glypta fumiferanae* were first aligned on *Campoplex*

genome portions (the genomes were segmented into chunks of 500,000 bases). Aligning

chunks were then aligned on the NCBI nr database. These hits were filtered to keep only hits

aligning on IVSPER proteins that are absent from parasitoid wasps which do not bear an

Ichnovirus. These "IVSPER" hits were then aligned back on the nr database and only the first

hit per query was retained.

CO1 and nudivirus gene alignments

Because the endogenized nudivirus genomes were highly similar in both *Campoplex* species,

we collected evidences to confirm that the *Campoplex* wasps sequenced for this study are

part of different species. To determine if the genomes of *C. capitator* and *C. nolae* come from

distinct species, whole genome alignments were performed using D-Genies (v1.4.0)

(Cabanettes & Klopp, 2018). A CO1 (cytochrome oxydase 1) sequence alignment was also

performed in order to measure divergence between the two genomes. CO1 orthologs were

searched for in *C. capitator* and *C. nolae* genomes by aligning ORFs on CO1 sequence of

Campoplex species reported in BOLD database (Ratnasingham & Hebert, 2007). Candidates

were then aligned together (*C. capitator* candidates vs *C. nolae* candidates) before being

aligned on the NCBI database. Endogenized nudivirus were also aligned by blastp in order to

assess the protein divergence between the two species. All results for this part are available

in the supplementary materials.

Endogenized nudivirus evolution

To perform the virus phylogeny, protein sequences of one nimavirus, three hytrosaviruses,

sixty-nine baculoviruses and twenty nudiviruses (including CcapiENV and *C. nolae* sequences)

were first aligned together in order to find orthologous genes. Results were then manually

corrected using the knowledge found in the literature (Bézier, Annaheim, et al., 2009; Bézier

et al., 2015; Bézier, Herbinière, et al., 2009; Burand et al., 2012; Burke, 2019; J.-M. Drezen et

al., 2022). Protein sequences of orthologous genes were then aligned using mafft (v7.487)

(Katoh et al., 2019) with the following parameters: maxiterate=1000 (maximum number of

iterations), genafpair (Altschul algorithm (Altschul, 1998)), ep=0 (offset value). Alignments

were then trimmed by TrimAL (v1.4.rev15) (Capella-Gutiérrez et al., 2009) with the gap

threshold parameter fixed at 0.6. For each gene, a tree was finally generated with IQ-TREE 2

(v2.1.4) (Minh et al., 2020) with the following parameters: m=TEST (use the best model found),

B=1000 (number of bootstrap iterations), alrt=1000 (number of SH-aLRT replicates). Protein

sequences of genes that were not supporting the accepted phylogeny (at the family level)

were removed from the further analysis. Finally, 21 baculovirus core genes and 13

alphanudivirus core genes were kept for the virus tree construction. Protein sequences of

these genes were aligned and trimmed as described previously. Sequences were then

concatenated using FASconCAT-G (v1.0) (Kück & Longo, 2014) and a tree was constructed with

iqtree2 with the same parameters as previously described. The tree image was then built using

ape (v5.7-1), treeio (v1.24.0) (L.-G. Wang et al., 2020) and ggtree (v3.8.0) (Yu et al., 2017)

packages with R (v4.2.1).

A whole genome synteny analysis was performed between *V. canescens*, *C. capitator* and *C.*

nolae using D-Genies. The cluster synteny figure (Figure 3) between *C. capitator* and *V.*

canescens was built using R and parity plots (Figure 4) showing syntenies among nudiviruses

were generated with Excel (Microsoft v16).

To estimate the evolutionary constraint occurring on groups of genes according to their

function, protein sequences of *C. capitator*, *V. canescens* and *C. nolae* were first clustered

using OrthoMCL (v2.0.9) (L. Li et al., 2003) and scripts written by Arun Seetharam

(https://github.com/ISUgenomics/common_scripts). Clustered protein sequences were then

aligned using ClustalOmega (v1.2.4) and aligned sequences were converted into codon

alignement using PAL2NAL (v14.1) (Suyama et al., 2006). Phylip trees were generated using

IQ-TREE 2 with the following parameters: -m JTT (Jones-Taylor-Thornton model (Jones et al.,

1992)). Codeml (Paml v4.10.6) was finally used to calculate dN and dS values.

Regulatory sequences in CcapiENV

In the same fashion as described in Cerqueira de Araujo et al. (2022), promoter sequences

regulating the early and late expression of viral genes in baculoviruses (Chen et al., 2013;

Passarelli & Guarino, 2007; Rohrmann, 2014) were sought in the 300 bp upstream of CcapiENV

genes. The "early" promoters described in Baculoviruses include a TATA box

(TATA[A/T]T[A/T]) and a sequence motif (CA[G/T]T or CGTCG) placed among the 40

nucleotides after the TATA box. The late promoters include the baculovirus motif

([A/T/G]TAAG) and the Heliothis zea nudivirus 1 motif (TTATAGTAT) (C.-H. Cheng et al., 2002).

We also considered the "late" motif ([G/T][A/T][A/G]A[A/T]ATAG[T/A]) described in Alexandra

Cerqueira 2022 for which 2 mismatches were allowed in the sequence search.

CcapiENV gene expression

Paired raw reads from ovaries, head-thorax, testes and venom gland of *C. capitator* wasps

were first trimmed using Trimmomatic (v 0.38) (Bolger et al., 2014) and TruSeq3-PE adaptors.

A quality check was then performed on trimmed reads using fastqc (v 0.11.9) before mapping.

Reads were mapped on the genome using Hisat-2 (v2.2.1-3n) (Kim et al., 2019) after genome

indexation. Mapped reads were then sorted using samtools (v1.16). Sorted reads were

converted into counts by FeatureCounts from the Rsubread package (v2.14.1) (Liao et al.,

750   2019). Using the edgeR package (v 3.42.2) (Robinson et al., 2010), genes with a count being

751   equal to less than 15 per sample were filtered from the dataset in order to remove non-

752   expressed genes. . The dataset was then normalised by converting the read counts into TPM

753   (transcripts per million). A Spearman correlation heatmap was performed to verify duplicate

754   consistency (Figure S4).

CcapiVLP purification and protein sequencing

In order to purify Virus-Like-Particles, 61 adult female wasps of *C. capitator* were dissected 2

days after emergence. In total, 122 calyces were obtained and pooled in 1X DPBS. Calyces

were then disrupted thanks to a pellet pestle and CcapiVLPs were purified as described in

Pichon et al. (2015): disrupted calyces were centrifuged at 770 g, at 4°C for 10 minutes in order

to separate CcapiVLPs and calyx fluid (supernatant) from cellular waste (pellet). The

supernatant was then retrieved and transferred into a new tube. The new tube was then

centrifuged at 15 400 g, at 4°C for 10 minutes. The supernatant was discarded and the pellet

containing CcapiVLPs was suspended in 20 μL of 1X DPBS and stored at -20°C.

CcapiVLP proteins were then separated by SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (12.5%

polyacrylamide gel) under denaturing conditions. Separated bands were incubated for 1h with

a Coomassie blue solution (10% acetic acid, 50% ethanol, 0.1% R250 Coomassie blue, q.s. to

1L of milliQ water) and 9 slices were cut from the gel. Slices were chopped into 1mm^3 cubes

before being stored at -20°C and analysed by the platform PIXANIM (France) using a

nanoUPLC_LTQ-VElos Pro Orbitrap Mass Spectrometer.

For each protein identified by the mass spectrometry, sites and domains were searched for

using InterProScan and gene ontology terms were attributed using sequence homology with

curated proteins from the Uniprot SWISSprot database (downloaded the 18th November

2022). Proteins with a peptide abundance higher than 50 were then retained as VLP

candidates.

Electronic microscopy of the calyx region

778   The calyx region of adult *C. capitator* wasp ovaries was observed under electronic microscopy.

779   Wasp ovaries were dissected two days after emergence and fixed in PrOx/EPON epoxy resin.

780   Samples were fixed, cut and observed with the same protocol as one used in Cerqueira de

781   Araujo and collaborators (Cerqueira de Araujo et al., 2022). The protocol is available in

782   Supplementary materials.

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Data availability

Raw reads and assemblies are deposited on the NCBI database under BioProject PRJNA936130.

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Table 1: Summary table of CcapiENV gene information. Putative functions were predicted from gene functions described in baculoviruses.

Functional nudivirus core genes are indicated in bold and pseudogenized nudivirus core genes are indicated with an asterisk. Names between

parentheses correspond to alternative names of the genes found in the literature. TPMs and PSM correspond to transcripts per million and

peptide-spectrum matches respectively. A complete version of this table is available in supplementary data (Table S3).

Function in baculoviruses	Gene name	Contig	Nudiviral cluster	Position in the contig	Gene length in bp	Mean of normalized TPMs in ovaries	Presence in VLPs	Peptide abundance (PSM)	Protein size in aa
DNA amplification	*helicase*	contig 13	2	complement(6986111 - 6989746)	3636	60.10636905			1212
Viral transcription	*p47*	contig 2	1	complement(15493852 - 15494922)	1071	202.0627154			357
	lef-4	contig 13	2	complement(6977003 - 6978238)	1236	307.9753009			412
	lef-8	contig 13	2	6982207 - 6985356	3150	190.7332664			1050
	lef-5	contig 328	4	complement(708144 - 708470)	327	390.8433835			109
	lef-9	contig 328	4	complement(727668 - 729752)	2085	380.7544624			695
Envelope components and infectiosity	*pif-4 (19 Kda)*	contig 328	4	706840 - 707595	756	10234.6896	X	39	252
	p33 (ac92)	contig 2	1	15496092 - 15497036	945	4562.742796	X	49	315
	pif-2	contig 13	2	complement(6971652 - 6972776)	1125	1950.200664	X	51	375
	pif-6 (ac68)	contig 328	4	complement(690595 - 691005)	411	4524.153106	X	13	137
	p74 (pif-0)	contig 328	4	695558 - 697498	1941	1979.354037	X	23	647
	vp91 (pif-8)	contig 328	4	complement(713819 - 715891)	2073	1898.483467	X	71	691
	pif-5-1 (odv-e56)	contig 328	4	725333 - 726583	1251	8407.359441	X	104	417
	pif-5-2 (odv-e56)	contig 328	4	733696 - 734952	1257	2238.100222	X	127	419
	pif-3	contig 328	4	744312 - 744905	594	5389.304417	X	33	198
	pif-1	contig 13	2	6978638 - 6980113	1476	1358.325472	X	24	492
	Ac81	contig 328	4	701318 - 701800	483	870.8774304			161
Morphogenesis and particle assembly	*vlf-1*	contig 328	4	709361 - 710638	1278	785.8570436			426
Unknown	*OrNVorf59-like*	contig 328	4	707602 - 708123	522	9224.822369	X	43	174

OrNVorf54-like	contig 2	1	complement(15472150 - 15473337)	1188	3589.443084	X	49	396
OrNVorf41-like-1 (11K)	contig 2	1	15475263 - 15475550	288	32236.6679	X	13	96
OrNVorf41-like-2 (11K)	contig 2	1	15476320 - 15476727	408	20804.23563	X	33	136
OrNVorf41-like-3 (11K)	contig 2	1	15479909 - 15480358	450	41424.23901			150
OrNVorf41-like-4 (11K)	contig 2	1	15481182 - 15481586	405	55874.69226	X	13	135
OrNVorf44-like	contig 2	1	15483923 - 15484489	567	11612.46173	X	66	189
OrNVorf46-like	contig 2	1	complement(15486115 - 15487905)	1791	151.0870697			597
OrNVorf136-like	contig 2	1	complement(15488716 - 15489168)	453	3212.888481			151
OrNVorf23-like	contig 2	1	15489783 - 15490574	792	261.6013813	X	47	264
OrNVorf19-like	contig 2	1	complement(15494837 - 15495235)	399	420.6676754			133
OrNVorf47-like	contig 13	2	6975948 - 6976769	822	2839.655997	X	18	274
OrNVorf73-like	contig 13	2	6992759 - 6993544	786	242.6407675			262
OrNVorf41-like-5 (11K)	contig 326	3	complement(2612826 - 2613125)	300	11433.84229			100
OrNVorf41-like-6 (11K)	contig 326	3	complement(2613850 - 2614170)	321	12768.01194			107
OrNVorf138-like	contig 328	4	complement(686054 - 686347)	294	2268.386529			98
OrNVorf61-like	contig 328	4	complement(689155 - 689526)	372	10869.81904	X	25	124
OrNVorf76-like	contig 328	4	691432 - 691659	228	978.3012378			76
OrNVorf25-like	contig 328	4	698675 - 700330	1656	3713.565782	X	191	552
OrNVorf27-like	contig 328	4	710904 - 712094	1191	2834.742838	X	20	397
OrNVorf90-like	contig 328	4	complement(717857 - 721093)	3237	225.2549736	X	35	1079
OrNVorf63-like	contig 328	4	complement(723007 - 723255)	249	2050.01484			83
OrNVorf79-like	contig 328	4	731525 - 731737	213	1646.832857	X	11	71
OrNVorf118-like	contig 328	4	736112 - 736948	837	3367.630323	X	97	279
OrNVorf119-like	contig 328	4	736958 - 738058	1101	7250.849857	X	80	367
OrNVorf120-like	contig 328	4	complement(738811 - 740787)	1977	1880.881495	X	120	659
OrNVorf122-like	contig 328	4	741734 - 742414	681	364.2703585			227
OrNVorf123-like	contig 328	4	743586 - 743909	324	6143.331885	X	17	108
OrNVorf18-like	contig 328	4	746646 - 748046	1401	6663.775966	X	109	467

Pseudogenes				
	pseudo vp39 *	contig 2	1	15465017 - 15465368
	pseudo OrNVorf99-like	contig 4	NA	6410523 - 6410915
	pseudo OrNVorf117-like	contig 9	NA	1382035 - 1382601
	pseudo OrNVorf139-like	contig 9	NA	6965367- 6965623
	pseudo FEN-1 *	contig 12	NA	726667 - 726882, 727180 - 727562
	pseudo DNApol *	contig 13	NA	507908 - 507956, 508176 - 508868
	pseudo OrNVorf99-like	contig 13	NA	5114850 - 5115368
	pseudo pif-4 *	contig 13	2	6989881 - 6990024
	pseudo pif-1 *	contig 13	2	6994508 - 6994810
	pseudo helicase *	contig 13	2	complement(6995640 - 6995816)
	pseudo OrNVorf62-like	contig 13	NA	7033194 - 7033540
	pseudo 38K *	contig 94	NA	29063 - 29227
	pseudo integrase *	contig 322	NA	7794008 - 7794318, 7794375 - 7794869
	pseudo OrNVorf22-like (p6.9) *	contig 322	NA	12698893 - 12699488
	pseudo OrNVorf128-like	contig 322	NA	14126845 - 14127067
	pseudo OrNVorf27-like	contig 326	3	2618461 - 2618893
	pseudo lef-8 *	contig 504	NA	3017 - 3559
	pseudo 38K *	contig 508	NA	23980 - 24171

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Figure 1: The nudiviral clusters of CcapiENV. Sequences of nudiviral origin are indicated by a red asterisk in the legend. Nudiviral genes were colourised according to their function described in baculoviruses. Cellular genes correspond to genes of non-nudiviral origin (with no nudiviral hit). The scale represents the cluster length in base pairs

Figure 2: Phylogenetic tree of Naldaviricetes viruses. The tree includes 20 nudiviruses, 69 baculoviruses, 3 hytrosaviruses (including LbFV for Leptopilina boulardi filamentous virus) and a nimavirus (WSSV for White spot syndrome virus) set as the outgroup. In total, 34 genes (21 baculovirus core genes and 13 alphanudivirus core genes) were used for the tree construction, using the maximum likelihood criterion. Branch supports are given by the SH-aLRT (Shimodaira-Hasegawa approximate likelihood ratio test), corresponding to the colour of the node circles and bootstrap values, corresponding to their size. The scale bar represents the phylogenetic distance (percentage of genetic variation). Campoplex capitator Endogenous Nudivirus and Campoplex nolae Endogenous Nudivirus are called respectively CcapiENV and CnolaENV. Nudiviruses endogenized in Campopleginae wasps are mentioned in red. Virus and sequence information is given in supplementary data (Table S4).

 Table 2: Nudivirus genes in the *C. capitator, C. nolae* and *V. canescens* genomes. Genes found in *C. capitator* (in orange) and *C. nolae* (in blue) were compared with those of VcENV (in green). Genes and pseudogenes are indicated with solid dots and crossed dots respectively. Copies are indicated by multiple dots. "na" indicates that no copy of the corresponding gene was found. Alternative gene names are given between parentheses.

Function in baculoviruses	Gene name	CcapiENV	CnolaENV	VcENV
DNA amplification	*DNApol*	⊗	⊗	⊗
	FEN-1	⊗	⊗	⊗
	helicase	•⊗	•	•
	helicase2	na	na	na
	integrase	⊗	⊗	⊗
Viral transcription	*lef-4*	•	•	•⊗
	lef-5	•	•	•
	lef-8	•⊗	•	•
	lef-9	•	•	•
	p47	•	•	•
Envelope components, infectiosity	*ac81*	•	•	•••
	p33 (ac92)	•	•	•
	p74 (pif-0)	•	•	•
	pif-1	•⊗	•	•⊗
	pif-2	•	•	•
	pif-3	•	•	•
	pif-4 (19 Kda)	•⊗	•⊗	•
	pif-5 (odv-e56)	••	••	••••
	pif-6 (ac68)	•	•	•
	vp91(pif-8)	•	•	•
Morphogenesis, particle assembly	*38K*	⊗	na	⊗
	vlf-1	•	•	⊗
	vp39	⊗	⊗	⊗
	OrNVorf22-like (p6.9)	⊗	⊗	⊗
Nucleotid metabolism	*tk1*	na	na	na
	tk2	na	na	na
	tk3	na	na	na
Unknown	*OrNVorf118-like*	•	•	•
	OrNVorf119-like	•	•	•
	OrNVorf120-like	•	•	•
	OrNVorf122-like	•	•	•
	OrNVorf123-like	•	•	•
	OrNVorf136-like	•	•	•
	OrNVorf138-like	•	•	•

OrNVorf18-like	●	●	●
OrNVorf19-like	●	●	●
OrNVorf23-like	●	●	●
OrNVorf25-like	●	●	●
OrNVorf27-like	●⊗	●⊗	●
OrNVorf41-like (11K)	●●●●●●	●●●●●●	●●●●●
OrNVorf44-like	●	●	●
OrNVorf46-like	●	●	●
OrNVorf47-like	●	●	●●●
OrNVorf54-like	●	●	●
OrNVorf59-like	●	●⊗	●
OrNVorf63-like	●	●	●
OrNVorf73-like	●	●	●
OrNVorf76-like	●	●	●
OrNVorf79-like	●	●	●
OrNVorf90-like	●	●	●
OrNVorf2-like	na	na	⊗
OrNVorf9-like	na	⊗	⊗
OrNVorf62-like	⊗	⊗	⊗
OrNVorf99-like	⊗	⊗	⊗
OrNVorf117-like	⊗	⊗	⊗
OrNVorf128-like	⊗	⊗	⊗
OrNVorf130-like	na	na	⊗
OrNVorf139-like	⊗	⊗	⊗

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Figure 3: Syntenies between the CcapiENV clusters and VcENV clusters (from Mao et al., 2023). Models were colourised according to their function. Light pink models correspond to genes annotated in Mao and collaborators (Mao et al., 2023) which have no match in the NCBI database, but have nevertheless been annotated as potential virus genes. The scale represents the length in base pairs.

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Figure 4: Parity plots comparing nudivirus genes order. **A** - Parity plot between the genomes

of Oryctes rhinoceros nudivirus (OrNV) on the horizontal axis and other exogenous nudiviruses

on the abscissa. The other nudiviruses are Gryllus bimaculatus nudivirus (GbNV), Kallithea

virus (KV) Drosophila innubia nudivirus (DiNV), Esparto virus (ENV) and Tomelloso virus (TNV).

B - Parity plot between the genomes of CcapiENV (ordinate) and the previous exogenous

nudiviruses (abscissa). **C** - Parity plot between the genomes of CcapiENV and other

endogenized nudiviruses (abscissa). The other endogenized nudiviruses are Fopius arisanus

endogenous nudivirus (FaENV), VcENV, CnolaENV and Nilaparvata lugens endogenous

nudivirus (NlENV).

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Figure 5: Estimation of selective pressures acting on wasp and endogenized nudivirus genes.

dN/dS ratio values were calculated from wasp (in grey) and nudivirus genes of *C. capitator*, *C.*

nolae and *V. canescens*. Numbers below each boxplot represent the number of sequences

used for dN/dS ratio calculation for each category. Numbers above each boxplot represent

the number of values higher than 2, which could not be plotted. In red are the dN/dS ratio

values for *helicase*, *p47* and *lef* genes, in green are the values for *pif* (*per-os-infectivity factor*)

genes, in pink the values for *Ac81*, *vp91* and *p33* genes, and in blue the values for *OrNVorf-like*

genes.

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Figure 6: The calyx region of a *C. capitator* ovaries of adult wasp observed using light and electron microscopy. A - light microscopic photograph of a semi-thin section of the calyx region, stained with toluidine blue. B, D - electron microscopy photographs of the calyx region shown in A. C, E - enlarged areas (white frames) of photographs B and D, respectively. Virogenic stromas (VS) and VLPs (dark arrow) are visible in cell nuclei (N). While virogenic stromas can be seen only in the nuclei, VLPs appear to travel from the nucleus to the lumen (L) where they accumulate, passing through the cytoplasm (C) and the membrane microvilli (MV). F - electron microscopy photograph showing the nucleus-cytoplasm-lumen interface where empty VLP envelopes can be seen in the nucleus (white circle), as described in *V. canescens* (Pichon et al., 2015).