

Research Article





# Genetic diagnosis and reproductive biology of translocated *mystacoleucus padangensis* in the toba lake, North Sumatra

#### **Abstract**

After Mystacoleucus. Padangensis has been introduced to Toba Lake, North Sumatra, the status of M. padangensis stocks and their biological properties is unknown. In this study, we examine the genetic patterns of the M. padangensis in Toba Lake, North Sumatra Province. Employing the cytochrome c oxidase subunit I (COI) gene of the mtDNA, we profile the genetic variation within M. padangensis in Toba Lake. We also analyzed reproductive characteristic and commercial catches of M. padangensis. The result shown M. padangensis is a synonim for M. marginatus, in total, 1 polymorphic sites (represent singleton dimensions) was identified and phylogenetic reconstruction reveal low levels of genetic diversity with no clear pattern of haplotype-partitioning. Nucleotide diversity analysis infer the present of two lineages. The Ne value of M. padangensis (1,936 to 3,878), the population has not experienced population growth/expansion as expected and the total production of M. padangensis in Toba Lake of the year for 2013 has ranged between 3347,05 – 6694,1 ton. M. padangensis in the Toba Lake share similar life history traits include maximum body size, longevity, age at maturity, and fecundity (the number of eggs produced). M. padangensis is categorized as the opportunistic strategy consisted of fishes with short generation time, low batch fecundity, and low investment per offspring. This life history traits approach of M. padangensis are important for guide fisheries management for its sustainability. More over the information can be use as pilot data and apply it to data-poor species.

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**Keywords:** *M. padangensis*, reproductive, DNA, toba lake, north sumatra

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## Introduction

Mystacoleucus is a distinctive genus in the Cyprinid subfamily Barbinae, characterized by 6-10 branched rays in the anal fin, which is quite different from the other genus in this subfamily, whose anal fins normally have 5 branched rays.1 Mystacoleucus, has a wide distribution in Java, Borneo, Sumatra, Malaya, and Thailand<sup>2</sup> and has seven species.<sup>3,4</sup> Roesma et al.<sup>5</sup> proposed that M. padangensis, is a new synonim for M. marginatus under the Indonesian common name wader. M. marginatus is a source of protein and of relatively high commercial value important for many local communities in the West Sumatra (Singkarak Lake). Reported price of M. marginatus has increased from IDR. 59.042/kg (2012) to over IDR. 80.000/kg in 2014.6 M. padangensis has been introduced to Toba Lake, North Sumatra intentionally to maximize their potential in 2003.7 There is no doubt that M. padangensis population in Toba Lake have experienced a very drastic decline since our last survey in 2013. However, limited information had been provided to understand the species' ability to recover after declining to make informed conservation decisions as there is growing interest in this species in some small industry markets. Fishing is an important source of income and food for many peoples in Toba Lake. Good resource management is vital if continued economic progress and poverty alleviation is to be achieved. In many parts of Indonesia inland fisheries resources have become depleted due to inadequate management but, in the case of M. padangensis, there exists a current opportunity to ensure sustainable use. In this study, we examine the genetic patterns of the M. padangensis in Toba Lake, North Sumatra Province. Employing the cytochrome c oxidase subunit I (COI) gene of the mtDNA, we profile the genetic variation within M. padangensis in Toba Lake. We also analyzed reproductive characteristic and commercial catches

of *M. Padangensis*. The results can provide important biological information as basic information, necessary to plan proper policy and management of *M. padangensis*.

# **Materials and methods**

#### Area study and sample collection

Sampling campaigns were conducted at six sites, Figure 1. and three times between April 2013 and November 2013 around Toba Lake, North Sumatra Province. Sampling and collecting representative samples of the adult fish community and fish juvenile (total sample size of 1078 individuals) were carried out using various types of fishing gear, Sulangat (a complex local fishing gear equipped with lamps), scoope net and gill nets.

# Sample preservation and DNA analysis

Target species caught were identified to the species level following Kottelat et al.<sup>8</sup> Immediately after fish was caught, tissue was taken from every individual and stored in absolute alcohol of 1.5 mL. In particular, at least 30 fishes collected for genetic study. Sampled fish were preserved in 10% buffered formaldehyde for several days after which the specimens were transferred to 70% ethanol. A voucher collection is stored at the Research Institute of Inland Fisheries, Palembang, South Sumatra, Indonesia. Juvenile fish at early life stages (from preflexion to postflexion larvae) were collected using two set of 30 cm diameter modified bongo nets during 15 min tows. The nets were maintained submerged for around 5 cm from surface. Larvae were kept in water and manually sorted after collection and were stored individually in absolute ethanol. Total genomic DNA was extracted from muscle tissue of each specimen using the Extraction Kit



procedure 'DNeasy Blood & Tissue' (Geneaid). The partial fragment of mitochondrial Cytochrome C Oxidase Subunit–1gene (CO1) was amplified using modified universal primers described by Ivanova:<sup>9</sup>

Fish-COI-F (5'-ACT TCA AAC TTC CAY AAA GAY aty GG-3) and

COI-Fish-R (5'-TAG ACT TCT GGG TGG CCR AAR Aay CA-3').

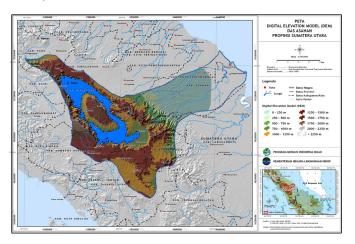


Figure I Sampling site in Toba Lake, North Sumatra Province (white dot).

Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplifications were made in a 50  $\mu$ L of reaction volume consisted of 5  $\mu$ L DNA samples, 16  $\mu$ L double distillate water, 2  $\mu$ L of each primer and 25  $\mu$ L of PCR ready mixture solution (KAPPA). PCR cycling parameters included an initial denaturation phase at 95°C for 10 min, followed by 35 cycles at 94°C for 1 min, 48°C for 1 min and 72°C for 1.5 min and ended with a final extension at 72°C for 7 min. Finally, all amplicons were automatically sequenced in both directions at Macrogen S.A. Korea (www.macrogen.com). The COI sequences of every analysed specimen were submitted to the GenBank database (MF062176–MF062186).

Chromatograms were controlled and checked manually edited with BioEdit (version 7.0.4.1)10 and multiple alignments were done using Clustal.<sup>11</sup> Following alignments, COI sequences were translated to amino acids to check for the presence of premature stop codons that indicate the presence of nuclear pseudo genes or sequencing errors. Sequence divergence was estimated using the Kimura two parameters (K2P) model of base substitution. 12 Phenetic reconstruction was done using a distance based method, Neighbor-Joining (NJ), carried out in MEGA5 software<sup>13</sup> with the K2P model of substitution. Support for nodes in NJ analyses was assessed using non-parametric bootstrapping with 100 full heuristic pseudo-replicates. For comparative purposes, we used the several sequences of the freshwater fish species in Genbank (Accession Number view in Figure) to root the tree. We estimate of Ne to a benchmark value ostensibly important for conservation and management of M. padangensis in the Toba Lake Sumatra River. We also calculated the population history of M. padangensis and generated a mismatch distribution plot<sup>14</sup> using DnaSP3.51 software.<sup>15</sup> Detecting population expansion, past population growth or stability based on DNA sequences can be estimates employing a range of neutrality statistics<sup>15</sup> such as Fu and Li's D\* test, Fu and Li's F\*, Fu's FS test<sup>16</sup> and Tajima'D test.<sup>17</sup> All of calculations were computed using DnaSP 3.0 software.

## Reproductive examination

In event level sampling, we go through our sampling frame selecting at least 30 individuals for each of sampling site. We measured the standard length (SL) and total length (TL) of collected M. padangensis to the nearest 1 mm, weighed the body (to nearest 0.01 g). The sex of each individual was identified and the gonads were assigned a developmental stage based upon morphology and macroscopic examination. Ovaries and testes were allocated a developmental stage according to the criteria modified Cassie<sup>18</sup> Gonads from both sexes were subsequently preserved and stored in 10% buffered formaldehyde. Histological preparations were made from four ovaries and two testes representing each stage of development to check the accuracy of macroscopic staging and to better discriminate between mature and immature fish. Histological preparations were also made if a fish's sex or developmental stage was uncertain. To prepare a gonad for histological examination, a small sample (<0.5 cm thick) was taken from the central portion of the preserved left gonad, embedded in paraffin, sectioned to 6 µm thickness, stained with Mayer's haematoxylin and eosinY, and mounted on a microscope slide.<sup>19</sup> All lengths reported here are standard lengths. Sex ratio, expressed as female: male, deviations from 1:1 null hypothesis were statistically tested by chi-squared test.

## Total fish production assessment

The assessment should include a census in time on selected sites (six sampling sites) using enumerator (the enumerators examined the fish caught) and comprehensive interview and count number of active Sulangat, the primary means of capturing *M. padangensis* to determine the total fish production.

# **Results**

## **Genetic analysis**

The PCR products of approximately 636-bp were obtained only from 11 M. padangensis Toba lake samples by amplification with Cytochrome Oxidase Subunit I (COI) universal primers, which spans sequence position 5537 – 6225 in GenBank HM 536913.1. In total, 1 polymorphic site (represent singleton dimensions) was identified in the sequence analysis of the 636-bp fragment among a total of 11 M. padangensis individuals from Toba Lake (Figure 2). Based on these polymorphic sites, two haplotypes were identified (Table 1), haplotype 1 was most frequent (90%) and the frequency of the remaining haplotypes was very low and resulted in a low nucleotide diversity of 0.00029 and low haplotype diversity 0.182. Variation of COI gene sequences of samples was summarized in Table 2. Based on our estimate of theta ( $\theta$ ) at 0.341 in *M. padangensis*, the effective female population size (Nef) was calculated to be 1,936 to 3,878. Given that effective population size inferred from the mitochondrial DNA is half of overall effective population size, and then we assume the effective population size (Ne) would be in between of 3,872 to

Tabel 1 Position of bp variation of M. padangensis COI gene

Haplotipe	Polymorphic site			
	5555	6054		
haplotipe I	Т	С		
haplotipe 2	Т	Т		

**Table 2** Location, sample size and genetic data of M. padangensis base on COI gene

Location	S. size	Sites plimrp	trans	Transv	Indel	Nucleotides composition
Toba Lake	11	I	I	0	0	T=27.4
						C=28.3
						A=26.7
						G=17.6

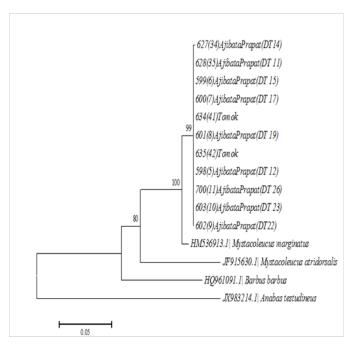
CCTTTATCTTGTATTTGGTGCCTGAG CCGGAATAGTAGGAACCGCCTTAAGCCTTCTTA TTCGAGCCGAACTGAGCCAACCCGGATCACTTCTAGG CGATGATCAAATCTACAACGTCATCGTTACTGCCCAC G C C T T C G T A A T A A T T T T C T T T A T A G T A A T A C C T A T CCTTATTGGAGGGTTCGGAAACTGACTTGTAC CACTAATGATTGGAGCCCCCGACATAGCAT TTCCACGGATAAATAACATAAGCTTCTGATTATTAC CCCCATCATTTCTACTACTATTAGCCTCA TCTGGTGTTGAAGCCGGAGCCGGAACGGGGTGAACAG TATATCCCCCTCTTGCAGGGAACCTAGCCCACGC AGGAGCATCAGTAGACCTAACAATTTTCTCAC TCCACTTAGCAGGTGTATCATCAATTTTAGGTGCGA TCAATTTATTACTACAACCATTAACATGAA ACCCCCAACCATCTCCCAATATCAAACACC CTTTTCGTTTGATCCGTACTTGTAACCGCCGTACTA CTTCTTCTATCACTACCCGTCCTAGCCGCCGGGAT CACAATACTCCTAACGGACCGAAATCTTAAC ACCACATTCTTCGACCCGGCAGGGGGGGGGGGGGCCCAAT

**Figure 2** Nucleotide sequence of a partial DNA fragment (663 bp) of the *M. padangensis COI* gene. Single nucleotide polymorphism locations are designated in bold and underlined.

Neighbor–Joining tree kimura 2 parameter (Figure 3) reconstructed from 15 sequences (11 sequences M. padangensis samples and 4 sequences samples as comparison). Base on phylogeny tree, common haplotypes of Toba Lake samples monophyletic with M. marginatus. Sequence analysis of the PCR products showed over 98% sequence identity to the COI gene of M. marginatus. The population history of M. marginatus population was examined using two different methods. A pair wise distance matrix was constructed with the 11 sequences of the COI of the mtDNA. The mismatch curve is bell-shaped (Figure 4), graphs observed mismatch distributions were compared with the expected ones. In the upper graphs expected curves were drawn by assuming constant population size whereas in the lower graphs expected curves were drawn under the assumption of population growth. The mean difference values for haplogroup Toba Lake was 0.182. Expansion results are presented in Table 3 Fu's Fs test of neutrality was applied to further test the possible occurrence of population (Figure 3 & Figure 4).

**Table 3** Neutrality calculates for *M. marginatus* mtDNA COI sequences from Toba Lake. Not significant values in the data are indicated

	Toba lake	sig		
Tajima's <sup>17</sup> D	-1,128	ns		
Fu et al. 16 F*	-1,289	ns		
Fu et al. 16 D*	-1,399	ns		
Fu et al. 16 FS	-0,400			
Not significant P > 0,10				



**Figure 3** Neighbour-Joining phylogeny Kimura 2 parameter haplotype of *M. marginatus* base on COI gene.

## **Aspects of reproduction**

#### Reproductive characteristics

M. padangensis make downstream migrations to reach very specific spawning locations in Toba Lake. Sex ratio was significantly different from the expected 1:1 ratio, (3,65:1), sex ratio shows a dominance of males in the Toba Lake (males/846 individuals, females/232 individuals during sampling periods). M. padangensis has an asynchronous ovary containing oocytes at various stages of development, Figure 5. Ovarian maturity was classified into the following four stages based on the most advanced oocytes contained in the ovary. Stage I oocytes correspond to previtellogenic oocytes and are characterized by a small size, a basophilic homogenous ooplasm, central or sub–central nucleoli and a high nucleoplasmic ratio. The developing phase (Stage II) includes oocytes in a primary to tertiary yolk stage and the mature phase (Stage III), ovaries much larger, occupying a significant part of the abdominal cavity.

### **Fecundity**

Fecundity is the number of eggs in the female fish prior to release at the time of spawning fish. The fecundity is linked to longevity or weight of individual fish species. The result showed that the Bilih fish fecundity with total length between 87 mm – 136 mm with the number of eggs 4432–9887 (  $7125 \pm 1753$  ) (Table 4) (Figure 5). As for females, stage III testes, some spermatids remain in the lobule's lumen, semen is never present within the sperm duct and even when squeezed vigorously, nothing comes out. Stage IV, almost similar with Stage III, but testes are characterized by lobules filled up with spermatozoa in the central part of the testes, semen is present within the sperm duct and when squeezed vigorously, sperm comes out (Figure 6).

## Egg diameter

Egg diameter of M. padangensis range from 0.08 - 0.012 mm, it shown in Table 3. The results showed that the diameter of fish

eggs is the same and the number of eggs that very considerably. The condition of maturity in level III and IV founded in every location

in large number, It's indicated that the Bilih fish will be spawning sustainable in Lake Toba.

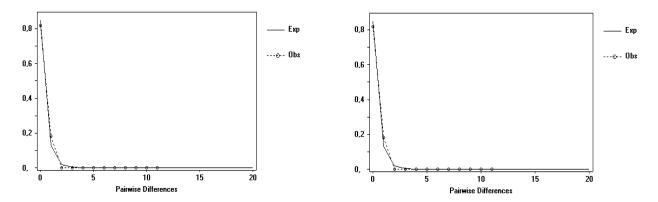


Figure 4 Observed and expected mismatch distributions for M. marginatus mtDNA COI sequences from Toba Lake under both constant and population expansion.

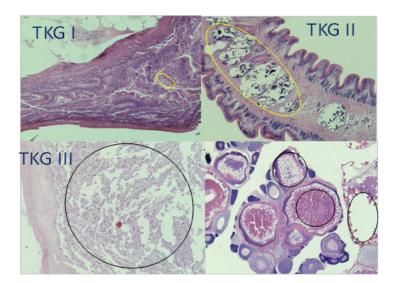


Figure 5 Histological maturation of the oocytes in M. marginatus.

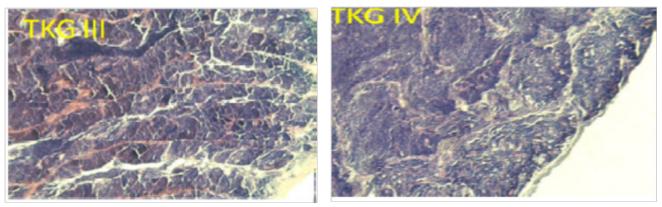


Figure 6 Testicular maturation stages in M. Marginatus.

Table 4 Fecundity and egg diameter of Mystacoleucus padangensis

Location	N	Matuirty	Length (mm)	Average (mm)	Fecundity	Egg diameter (mm)
D 1	15	III	82–129	111.4	-	_
Panahantan	17	IV	100-135	119.4	5557–9887	0.08-0.12
•	10	III	85–127	108.6	-	-
Ajibata	15	IV	87–132	116.9	5459–8776	0.08-0.12
Tongging	13	III	85–129	10.5	_	-
	16	IV	101-131	116.1	4432–8166	0.08-0.12
Dawasat	13	III	87–132	113	_	-
Parapat	12	IV	98–136	120.3	5541-8231	0.09-0.12
_	11	III	87–132	108.9	_	-
Paropo	11	IV	89–129	116.8	4980–7851	0.09-0.12

Table 5 GSI of Mystacoleucus padangensis Toba Lake 2013

1 4	Mala/Es and		GSI (%)				
Location	Male/ Female	N	Min	Max	Mean	SD	
A:: boto	3	40	1.27	12.17	5.18	2.89	
Aji bata	3	8	3.24	7.44	5.57	1.69	
Panahatan	3	18	1.13	5.5	2.96	1.03	
rananatan	ð	18	1.25	12.51	5.82	3.67	
Tongging	3	16	1.05	12.23	4.31	2.6	
Tongging	3	5	3.42	12.79	7.22	3.92	
Downer	3	10	1.13	4.47	2.77	1.07	
Paropo	3	12	3.46	8.41	5.57	1.32	
Paranat	ð	8	1.05	5.98	3.8	1.49	
Parapat	8	9	3.77	6.33	5.43	0.9	

Table 6 Total hand lift net (Ulangat) in Toba Lake 2013

No	Location	Total of ulangat (Units)
1	Aji Bata	90
2	SiGaol–Gaol	38
3	Simanindo	59
4	Batu Gantung	23
5	Penahotan	17
6	Samosir	107
7	Ambarita	108
8	Onarunggu	177
9	Nainggolan	72
10	Palipi	44
11	Pangururan	182
Total		917

## Gonado somato index (GSI)

The highest male and female on maximum value of GSI Bilih fish found at the Tongging station (inlet of Lake Toba is located in Karo district) respectively at 12.23 and 12.79% (Table 5). The average value of the male gonad maturity index between observation stations based on Sapiro–Wilk test was not significantly different (a>0.05). The average value of GSI lowest male fish found in Paropo with value 2.77%.. The average value of GSI female found in Tongging with value 7.22%. GSI female values at each station were not significantly different (a>0.05). Based on Sapiro–Wilk test the average value of GSI between male and female fish are not significantly different observation stations. Based on the results of data analysis showed that the Variance of GSI are higher in male and female fish. The statement indicated that the fish can spawn almost all stations and sustainable spawn throughout the year.

### **Total Production**

Based on the results of studied of fishing gear (Ulangat) on Lake Toba found as many as 917 units (Table 6). It is founded in nearly all districts in Lake Toba. The data showed that the range of the catches fish (M. padangensis) in Lake Toba by using Ulangat obtained by the range of 10-20 kg / day (Table 7). By converting the data is assumed that the potential of the bilih fish with ulangat amounted to 9.17 tons -18.34 tons per day.

# **Discussion**

This study used nucleotide sequences from the cytochrome *c* oxidase subunit I (COI) gene region to examine the genetic properties of *M. padangensis* among six sampling sites in Toba Lake with a total of 11 individuals. Sequence analysis showed over 98% sequence identity to the COI gene of *M. marginatus*, this suggest that *M. padangensis* is a synonim for *M. marginatus*. Analyzed specimens were included to specific taxonomic group only if they formed monophyletic group with maximum 3% (K2P) sequences divergence.<sup>20</sup> Using partial sequences of Cyochrome b sequence Roesma<sup>5</sup> define that *M. padangensis*, is a new synonim for *M. marginatus*. The percentage of A+T base composition (54.1%) was much higher than C+G, which coincides with vertebrate protein—coding genes.<sup>21</sup> Phylogenetic reconstruction of molecular variation between *M. padangensis* sampled from Toba Lake reveal low levels of genetic diversity with no clear pattern of

haplotype–partitioning associated with a specific geographic location. However, when explored at the nucleotide diversity analysis infer the present of two lineages which is good for population longterm survival. Single–nucleotide polymorphism (SNPs) is important and now widely used for both, linkage analyses and biodiversity studies. <sup>22,23</sup> A single, intermixing population of *M. padangensis* across the sampled location. No significant structuring was observed

among other pairwise comparisons, this indicates gene flow between geographically adjacent locations. These results have direct management implications in recommending that *M. padangensis* from Toba Lake be managed as single stocks. In general, the active movement of adult and passive movement of eggs and larvae would accelerate the occurrence of gene flow among populations.<sup>24</sup>

Tabel 7 Catch Compostion using Hand Lift Net in Toba Lake 2013

No	Location	Local name of fishing gear	Type of fish	Cath composition (%)	Total catch/Day (Kg)
I	Aji Bata	Ulangat	Bilih	100	10–20 kg
2	Sigaol-gaol	Ulangat	Bilih	100	15 –20 kg
3	Simanindo	Ulangat	Bilih	100	10 –20 kg
4	Pangururan	Ulangat	Bilih	100	10 –25 kg
5	Onarunggu	Ulangat	Bilih	100	10 –20 kg

It seems that the Ne value of M. padangensis (1,936 to 3,878) is sufficient to survive from a genetic viewpoint. The relatively high Nef reduces the probability of inbreeding among M. padangensis, potentially allowing the population to recover quickly.25 The population history of M. padangensis, suggest that the population has not experienced population growth/expansion as expected.<sup>26</sup> More sensitive tests Fu's Fs test of neutrality4 was applied to further test the possible occurrence of population expansion. However the Tajima's D were positive in both populations and the index of Fu's Fs test, was not significant at the 5% level for population for the pooled dataset. This is a weak indication of population expansion.<sup>27</sup> To our knowledge, this is the first study to explore the genetic variation of M. padangensis in the Toba Lake to single stocks. Further, our data indicate M. padangensis at each sampling location likely had not undergone recent population expansion based on mismatch distribution analysis and neutrality tests. The same phylogeny means that M. padangensis in the Toba Lake share similar life history traits include maximum body size, longevity, age at maturity, and fecundity (the number of eggs produced). Referring to the organizing framework by28 which has evaluated patterns in fish life history traits across species, M. padangensis is categorized as the opportunistic strategy consisted of fishes with short generation time, low batch fecundity, and low investment per offspring. Each female fish has a finite amount of energy for reproduction. If all of this energy is used to create new fish biomass, then, at the extremes, it could be used to make one huge egg or billions of tiny eggs. Given these energy constraints, fish reproductive investment tends to be thought of as a spectrum of low investment in numerous offspring.<sup>29</sup> This life history traits approach of M. padangensis are important for guide fisheries management for its sustainability. More over the information can be use as pilot data and apply it to data-poor species. It appears that the total production of M. padangensis in Toba Lake have been increased from 1,505 ton in  $2010^{30}$  to at least 3,347 ton in 2013. This data based on local gear used for fishing called Sulangat, a complex fishing gear which uses lights attached to structure above water to attract both fish and members of their food. In the every device, daily catches varied considerably between 10 - 20 ton and at least 917 Sulangat were installed in Toba Lake. Our study provides some information on the reproductive insight (histology) and total fish production of M.

padangensis that would be helpful in similar studies and contributed to fisheries management of this species.<sup>31,32</sup>

# **Acknowlegements**

None.

#### Conflict of interret

The authiors deckre there is no conflict of interest.

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