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### Program: M.Sc., Microbiology

Course Title : Microbial Genetics & Molecular Biology Course Code: 24MICCC3

# **Unit III: DNA replication**

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#### **DNA REPLICATION**

#### DNA replication copies the genetic information of a cell.



### **Replication copies the genetic information.**

- A single strand of DNA serves as a template for a new strand.
- The rules of base pairing direct replication.
- DNA is replicated during the S (synthesis) stage of the cell cycle.
- Each body cell gets a complete set of identical DNA.





# **DNA Replication**

Matthew Meselson & Franklin Stahl, 1958 investigated the process of DNA replication considered 3 possible mechanisms:

- Conservative model
- Semiconservative model
- Dispersive model

The conservative model results in one new molecule and conserves the old. The **semi-conservative replication** model results in two hybrid molecules of old and new strands. The dispersive model results in hybrid molecules with each strand being a mixture of old and new strands.



## Meselson and Stahl Determine the Mechanism of DNA Replication

Matthew Meselson and Franklin Stahl reasoned that they could test the models if they could distinguish between parent and daughter strands of DNA. They used two different isotopes of nitrogen to label the DNA: "light" <sup>14</sup>N and "heavy" <sup>15</sup>N. These isotopes were chosen for two reasons:

- Nitrogen is a component of DNA and would be incorporated into newly synthesized daughter strands.
- "Light" and "heavy" forms of nitrogen would allow separation of different strands of DNA based on how much isotope was present. DNA with the "heavy" nitrogen would be more dense than DNA with "light" nitrogen.

Dr. Franklin Stahl





Dr. Matthew Meselson

### Meselson and Stahl Determine the Mechanism of DNA Replication



Conclusion: DNA replication in E. coli is semi-conservative.

At the 0 time point: all the DNA had heavy <sup>15</sup>N nitrogen

After 1 round: the DNA was a hybrid molecule, with an intermediate location

After 2 rounds: two molecules were seen:

one that was hybrid, and one that was the lighter <sup>14</sup>N DNA molecule.

Conclusion: Semiconservative replication



## **DNA Replication**

Meselson and Stahl concluded that the mechanism of DNA replication is the semiconservative model.

Each strand of DNA acts as a template for the synthesis of a new strand.

# **DNA Replication**

DNA replication includes:

- Initiation replication begins at an origin of replication
- Elongation new strands of DNA are synthesized by DNA polymerase
- Termination replication is terminated differently in prokaryotes and eukaryotes

## **Prokaryotic DNA Replication**

The chromosome of a prokaryote is a circular molecule of DNA.

Replication begins at one origin of replication and proceeds in both directions around the chromosome.

 Origins of replications usually are rich in Adenine and Thymine

# Enzymes of Prokaryotic DNA Replication

- The double helix is unwound by the enzymes helicase, DNA topoisomerase, and DNA gyrase
  SSBP (single stranded binding protein) helps
  - keep strands separated
- DNA polymerase III (pol III) is responsible for most of DNA synthesis
  - Adds nucleotides to the 3' end of the daughter strand of DNA; DNA synthesis is from 5' to 3'

 Requires RNA primers as a guide for synthesis

RNA primers are made by the enzyme primase<sup>1</sup>

# Enzymes of Prokaryotic DNA Replication

- DNA polymerase I: involved in proofreading and DNA repair
- DNA ligase: involved in connected ends of replicated DNA together

## The Problem of Overwinding



**Figure 7-4** Relaxation of DNA overwinding by topoisomerases. DNA replication is shown after it has begun on a circular DNA molecule. In this example a replication fork is working at both sides of the growing "bubble" (a). As the replication bubble grows (b), an over-wound region appears ahead of the replication bubble. Through the action of topoisomerases the overwound region is relaxed (c). Illustration provided by C. Ullsperger, A. Vologod-skii, and N. Cozzarelli.

# **Topoisomerase Type I**

- Precedes replicating DNA
- Mechanism
  - Makes a cut in one strand, passes other strand through it. Seals gap.
  - Result: induces positive supercoiling as strands are separated, allowing replication machinery to proceed.

## Gyrase--A Type II Topoisomerase

- Introduces negative supercoils
- Cuts both strands
- Section located away from actual cut is then passed through cut site.



Figure. Model of the formation of negative DNA supercoils by DNA gyrase.

Initiation of replication in E. coli. The DnaA initiator protein binds to oriC (the replicator) and stimulates denaturation of the DNA. DNA helicases are recruited and begin to untwist the DNA to form two head-to-head replication forks.



- DnaA Protein activates initiation of DNA replication in prokaryotes
- Replication initiation factor which promotes the unwinding of DNA at oriC
- Replication begins with active DnaA binding to 9mer (9-bp) repeats upstream of the oriC
- Binding of DnaA leads to strand separation at the 13-mer repeats
- This binding causes the DNA to loop in preparation for melting open by the helicase DnaB.
- The oriC site in *E. coli* has three AT rich 13 base pair regions (DUEs) followed by four 9 bp regions
- 10 dnaA molecules bind to the 9 bp regions, which wrap around the proteins causing the DNA at the AT-rich region to unwind
- When DNA replication is about to commence, dnaA occupies all of the high and low affinity binding sites



- The denatured AT-rich region allows for the recruitment of DnaB (helicase), which complexes with DnaC (helicase loader)
- DnaC helps the helicase to bind to and to properly accommodate the ssDNA at the 13 bp region; this is accomplished by ATP hydrolysis, after which DnaC is released
- Single-strand binding proteins (SSBs) stabilize the single DNA strands in order to maintain the replication bubble
- DnaB is a 5'→3' helicase, so it travels on the lagging strand. It associates with DnaG (a primase) to form the only primer for the leading strand and to add RNA primers on the lagging strand
- The interaction between DnaG and DnaB is necessary to control the longitude of Okazaki fragments on the lagging strand
- DNA polymerase III is then able to start DNA replication



## Helicase

- Motor proteins that move directionally along a nucleic acid phosphodiester backbone, separating two annealed nucleic acid strands (i.e., DNA, RNA, or RNA-DNA hybrid) using energy derived from ATP hydrolysis
- Cellular processes, such as DNA replication, transcription, translation, recombination, DNA repair, and ribosome biogenesis involve the separation of nucleic acid strands that necessitates the use of helicases
- They also function to remove nucleic acid-associated proteins and catalyze homologous DNA recombination
- Metabolic processes of RNA such as translation, transcription, ribosome biogenesis, RNA splicing, RNA transport, RNA editing, and RNA degradation are all facilitated by helicases
- Helicases move incrementally along one nucleic acid strand of the duplex with a directionality and processivity specific to each particular enzyme
- Helicases adopt different structures and oligomerization states
- DnaB-like helicases unwind DNA as donut-shaped hexamers, other enzymes have been shown to be active as monomers or dimers



- Enzymatic helicase action, such as unwinding nucleic acids depends on activation barrier (B)
- Its unwinding progression is largely affected by the sequence of nucleic acids within the molecule to unwind, and the presence of destabilization forces acting on the replication fork
- So far 25 helicases have been well characterized
- Helicases have been classified in 6 major groups (superfamilies) based on the motifs and consensus sequences shared by the molecules
- Helicase not forming ring structures superfamily 1 and 2
  - forming ring structures superfamily 3 to 6
- Alpha Helicase act on single stranded DNA
- Beta Helicase act on dsDNA
- Type A Helicase translocation at 3'to 5' direction
- Type B Helicase translocation at 5' to 3' direction

## Liebowitz Experiment

Chapter 20 / DNA Replication I: Basic Mechanism and Enzymology 647



**Figure 20.18 DNA helicase assay.** (a) Substrate. LeBowitz and McMacken made a helicase substrate by <sup>32</sup>P-labeling a single-stranded 1.06 kb *HinclI* DNA fragment (red) at its 5'-end, and annealing the fragment to an unlabeled single-stranded recombinant M13 DNA bearing a complementary 1.06 kb region, bounded by two *HinclI* sites (H). (b) Assay. Top: The dnaB protein, or any DNA helicase, can unwind the double-stranded region of the substrate and liberate the labeled short piece of DNA (red) from its longer, circular partner. Bottom: Electrophoresis of the substrate (lane 1) yields two bands, which probably correspond to linear and circular versions of the long DNA annealed to the labeled, short DNA. Electrophoresis of the substrate (lane 2) shows that it has a much higher mobility than the substrate (see band labeled "product").

## Liebowitz Assay--Results



- What do these results indicate?
- ALTHOUGH PRIMASE (DnaG) AND SINGLE-STRAND BINDING **PROTEIN (SSB) BOTH STIMULATE** DNA HELICASE (DnaB), NEITHER HAVE HELICASE ACTIVITY OF THEIR **OWN**

Single Stranded DNA Binding Proteins (SSB)

- Maintain strand separation once helicase separates strands
- Not only separate and protect ssDNA, also stimulates binding by DNA pol (too much SSB inhibits DNA synthesis)

## Strand growth proceeds 5'>>3'







Figure 5–18. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.

Figure 5–17. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.



# The DNA Polymerase Family

A total of 5 different DNAPs have been reported in E. coli

- DNAP I: functions in repair and replication
- DNAP II: functions in DNA repair (proven in 1999)
- DNAP III: principal DNA replication enzyme
- DNAP IV: functions in DNA repair (discovered in 1999)
- DNAP V: functions in DNA repair (discovered in 1999)

To date, a total of 14 different DNA polymerases have been reported in eukaryotes

# DNA pol l

- First DNA pol discovered.
- Proteolysis yields 2 chains
  - -Larger Chain (Klenow Fragment) 68 kd
    - C-terminal 2/3rd. 5'>>3' polymerizing activity
    - N-terminal 1/3rd. 3'>>5' exonuclease activity
  - Smaller chain: 5'>>3 exonucleolytic activity
    - nt removal 5'>>3'
    - Can remove >1 nt
    - Can remove deoxyribos or ribos



# **Nick Translation**

- Requires 5'-3' activity of DNA pol I
- <u>Steps</u>
- At a nick (free 3' OH) in the DNA the DNA pol I binds and digests nucleotides in a 5'-3' direction
- 2. The DNA polymerase activity synthesizes a new DNA strand
- 3. A nick remains as the DNA pol I dissociates from the ds DNA.
- 4. The nick is closed via DNA ligase



# DNA Polymerase I is great, but....

In 1969 John Cairns and Paula deLucia

- -isolated a mutant bacterial strain with only 1% DNAP I activity (poIA)
- mutant was super sensitive to UV radiation
- but otherwise the mutant was fine i.e. it could divide, so obviously it can replicate its DNA

## Conclusion:

 DNAP I is NOT the principal replication enzyme in E. coli

Other clues....

- DNAP I is too slow (600 dNTPs added/minute)
- DNAP I is only moderately processive (processivity refers to the number of dNTPs added to a growing DNA chain before the enzyme dissociates from the template)

### **Conclusion:**

- There must be additional DNA polymerases.
- Biochemists purified them from the polA mutant

# **DNA Polymerase III**

The major replicative polymerase in E. coli

- ~ 1,000 dNTPs added/sec
- It's highly processive: >500,000 dNTPs added before dissociating
- Accuracy:
  - -1 error in  $10^7$  dNTPs added,
  - -with proofreading final error rate of 1 in 10<sup>10</sup> overall.

## DNA Polymerase III Holoenzyme (Replicase)



#### Components of *E. coli* DNA Polymerase III Holoenzyme.

| Subunit             | Mass (kD) | Structural Gene |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| $\alpha^a$          | 130       | polC (dnaE)     |
| $\varepsilon^{a}$   | 27.5      | dnaQ            |
| $\Theta^a$          | 10        | holE            |
| $\mathbf{\tau}^{b}$ | 71        | $dnaX^c$        |
| $\gamma^b$          | 45.5      | $dnaX^c$        |
| $\delta^b$          | 35        | holA            |
| $\delta'^{b}$       | 33        | holB            |
| $\chi^{b}$          | 15        | holC            |
| $\psi^b$            | 12        | holD            |
| β                   | 40.6      | dnaN            |

"Components of the Pol III core.

<sup>*b*</sup>Components of the  $\gamma$  complex.

<sup>c</sup>The  $\gamma$  and  $\tau$  subunits are encoded by the same gene sequence; the  $\gamma$  subunit comprises the N-terminal end of the  $\tau$  subunit.

Sources: Kornberg, A. and Baker, T.A., DNA Replication (2nd ed.), p. 169, Freeman (1992); and Baker, T.A. and Wickner, S.H., Annu. Rev. Genet. 26, 450 (1992).

# Activities of DNA Pol III

- ~900 kd
- Synthesizes <u>both</u> leading and lagging strand
- Can only extend from a primer (either RNA or DNA), not initiate
- 5'>>3' polymerizing activity
- 3'>>5' exonuclease activity
- <u>NO</u> 5'>>3' exonuclease activity



Action of DNA ligase in sealing the nick between adjacent DNA fragments (e.g., Okazaki fragments) to form a longer, covalently continuous chain. The DNA ligase catalyzes the formation of a phosphodiester bond between the 3'-OH and the 5'-phosphate groups on either side of a nick, sealing

#### **Replication**



**DNA polymerase III** enzyme adds DNA nucleotides to the RNA primer.


**DNA polymerase** proofreads bases added and replaces incorrect nucleotides.



Leading strand synthesis continues in a 5' to 3' direction.



Leading strand synthesis continues in a 5' to 3' direction.



Leading strand synthesis continues in a 5' to 3' direction.



Leading strand synthesis continues in a 5' to 3' direction.





Leading strand synthesis continues in a 5' to 3' direction.



Exonuclease activity of DNA polymerase I removes RNA primers.



Polymerase activity of DNA polymerase I fills the gaps. Ligase forms bonds between sugar-phosphate backbone. Model for the replisome, the complex of key replication proteins, with the DNA at the replication fork. The DNA polymerase III on the lagging-strand template (top of figure) is just finishing the synthesis of an Okazaki fragment.





- Occurs @ specific site opposite ori c
- ~350 kb
- Flanked by 6 nearly identical <u>non-palindromic\*</u>, 23 bp terminator (*ter*) sites
- \* Significance?

# **Prokaryotic DNA Replication**

Leading strand is synthesized continuously (in the same direction as the replication fork)
 Lagging strand is synthesized discontinuously creating Okazaki fragments

# **Types of DNA Replication**

# Based on the mode of directions Uni-directional (Rolling Circle Replication) Bi-directional

# **Rolling Circle Replication**

- For the replication of
  - Circular DNA or RNA
  - o Plasmids
  - Genomes of bacteriophages
  - Circular RNA genomes of viroids
  - Some eukaryotic viruses – HHV-6
- Uses
  - Used for amplifying DNA from very small amount

#### Mechanism of rolling circle replication



(Espinosa and al., 1995, FEMS Microbiology letters, 130: 111-120)

Bidirectional replication of circular DNA molecules.



# **Eukaryotic DNA Replication**

The larger size and complex packaging of eukaryotic chromosomes means they must be replicated from multiple origins of replication.

The enzymes of eukaryotic DNA replication are more complex than those of prokaryotic cells.

# **Eukaryotic DNA Replication**

Synthesizing the ends of the chromosomes is difficult because of the lack of a primer.

With each round of DNA replication, the linear eukaryotic chromosome becomes shorter.

## Replication is fast and accurate.

• DNA replication starts at many points in eukaryotic chromosomes.



There are many origins of replication in eukaryotic chromosomes.

• DNA polymerases can find and correct errors.



## **DNA Replication in Eukaryotes**

Eukaryotes have at least 15 DNA Polymerases:

- Pol α : act as a primase (synthesizing an RNA primer), elongates the primer
- **Pol**  $\beta$  : repairs DNA, (excision repair and gap-filling).
- **Pol**  $\gamma$ : Replicates and repairs mitochondrial DNA and has proofreading 3'  $\rightarrow$  5' exonuclease activity.
- Pol δ: Highly processive and has proofreading 3' → 5' exonuclease activity, reposible for replication of lagging strand.
- Pol ε: Highly processive and has proofreading 3' → 5' exonuclease activity, reponsible for replication of leading strand.
- η, ι, κ, Rev1 and Pol ζ are involved in the bypass of DNA damage.
- $\theta$ ,  $\lambda$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\sigma$ , and  $\mu$  are not as well characterized:
- There are also others, but the nomenclature has become quite jumbled.

## **DNA Replication in Eukaryotes**

- the polymerases that deal with the elongation are
   Pol α, Pol ε, Polδ.
- Pol α : forms a complex to act as a primase (synthesizing an RNA primer), and then elongates that primer with DNA nucleotides.
- After around 20 nucleotides elongation by Pol α is taken over by Pol ε (on the leading strand) and δ (on the lagging strand).
- Other enzymes are responsible for primer remover in Eukaryotes as none of their polymerases have 5'→3' exonuclease activity

# **Eukaryotic DNA Replication**

Telomeres – repeated DNA sequence on the ends of eukaryotic chromosomes – produced by telomerase

Telomerase contains an RNA region that is used as a template



next repeat

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Errors During DNA Replication A human cell can copy its entire DNA in a few hours, with an error rate of about one per 1 billion nucleotide pairs.

Errors naturally occur during replication. Mispairing of bases and strand slippage are two types of errors that cause either additions or omissions of nucleotides.



## Errors During DNA Replication

Strand slippage during DNA replication can cause the addition or omission of nucleotides in newly synthesized strands, which represent errors.



## Correcting Errors During DNA Replication

**DNA polymerase** I and **II** have proofreading abilities. These enzymes recognize and correct errors in newly synthesized strands of DNA. This method repairs about 99% of the mismatch errors that occur during replication.

**Mismatch repair** is done by a group of proteins that can recognize and repair deformities in newly synthesized DNA that feature the mispairing of bases.

Errors that remain after DNA polymerase proofreading or mismatch repair are considered mutations once cell division occurs.



## Comparing DNA Replication in Eukaryotes and Prokaryotes

| Similarities   | Differences  |
|--|--|
| <ul> <li>the requirement of an origin of replication</li> <li>elongation in the 5' to 3' direction</li> <li>continuous synthesis of the leading strand and discontinuous synthesis of the lagging strand</li> <li>the use of a primer for the synthesis of Okazaki fragments</li> <li>the use of DNA polymerase enzymes</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>the rate of replication is faster in prokaryotes</li> <li>DNA polymerase enzymes are different in structure and number</li> <li>the small, circular chromosome of a prokaryote contains a single origin of replication whereas the larger, linear eukaryotic chromosome contains thousands</li> <li>linear chromosomes contain telomeres (synthesized by telomerases), which are highly repetitive sequences on the ends of chromosomes that ensure important genetic material is not lost during lagging strand replication</li> </ul> |

# Bacteriophage \$\$X174 DNA Replication

 $\varphi$ X174 (phiX174) is a virus that infects the bacterium <u>*E. coli*</u>.

First DNA-based genome (5386 bp) to be sequenced by Fred Sanger (1977).

The genome of  $\Phi$ X174 was the first to be completely assembled *in vitro* from synthesized oligonucleotides (JCV, 2003).

Non-enveloped, round, icosahedral symmetry (T=1), about 30 nm in diameter. The capsid consists of 12 pentagonal trumpet-shaped pentamers. The virion is composed of 60 copies each of the F, G, and J proteins, and 12 copies of the H protein. There are 12 spikes which are each composed of 5 G and one H proteins.





FICTIPE S14.7





#### Figure 8-8

Scheme for assembly and migration of the primosome and the stepwise displacement of SSB in the  $\phi X$  SS  $\rightarrow$  RF reaction.

#### The RF to RF Pathway



#### Figure 8-13

Scheme for gpA action, illustrating its multiple functions. The looped rolling-circle intermediate form is used in strand separation, uncoupled from replication, as well as in the synthesis of viral (+) strands. Rep = the Rep belicase.

#### The Origin of Replication of Icosahedral Phages \$\phiX174\$ and G4



#### FIGURE 13-8

Nucleotide sequence at origin of viral strand in replicative form of  $\phi X174$  and G4. Covalent extension from point of cleavage by gene A protein (residues 4297-4298 on PstI map) starts synthesis of viral strand in the direction of the arrow. The AT-rich region of  $\phi X174$  is completely conserved in G4 and neighboring GC-rich regions are homologous. Differences in base sequence between  $\phi X174$  and G4 are marked with lines. [Adapted from Fiddes, J. C., Barrell, B. G., and Godson, G. N. (1978) PNAS 75, 1081.]

#### The gpA Catalyzed Cleavage and Ligation Reaction



#### Figure 8-14

Model for the gpA-catalyzed cleavage and cleavage-ligation reactions which occur during initiation and termination of  $\phi X$  rolling-circle replication. The origin sequence, shown schematically as -TG-O-P-O-AT-, is in the viral (+) strand of the duplex rolling-circle intermediate shown in Fig. 8-13.

The \$\phiX174 DNA Packaging Reaction





#### The Replication Cycle of $\phi$ X174

| _ | Stage | Time,<br>(minutes, at 33°) | Events   |
|---|-------|----------------------------|--|
| 1 | SS→RF | →RF 0-1                    | adsorption and penetration; viral SS→parental RF;<br>transcription of RF   |
| 2 | RF→RF | 1-20                       | parental RF  |
| 3 | RF→SS | 25<br>20-30                | RF multiplication stops; host DNA synthesis stops<br>~35 rolling circles $\rightarrow$ ~500 viral SS $\rightarrow$ phage particles |
|   |       | 40                         | cell lysis   |

## Table 17-8Replication cycle of \$\phi\$X174

 Kornberg A (1978) CSHS 43:1; Meyer RR, Shlomai J, Kobori J, Bates D, Rowen L, McMacken R, Ueda K, Kornberg A (1978) CSHS 43:289; Eisenberg S, Scott JF, Kornberg A (1978) CSHS 43:295.

#### The Replication Proteins of E. coli used by \$\$X174

|                            |     |              |          | Unamplified yield  |                    |        |               |
|----------------------------|-----|--------------|----------|--|--------------------|--------|---------------|
| Polypepti                  | ide | Mass<br>kdal | Subunits | ,<br>Function  | molecules/<br>cell | mg/kgª | Amplification |
| SSB                        |     | 74           | 4        | single-strand binding                                      | 300                | 20     |               |
| protein i                  |     | 80           | 4        | prepriming   | 150                | 0.5    |               |
| protein n                  |     | 25           | 1        | prepriming   |                    |        |               |
| protein n'                 |     | 75           | 1        | site recognition, ATPase                                   | 80                 | 0.3    |               |
| protein n"                 |     | 11           | 1        | prepriming   |                    |        |               |
| dnaC                       |     | 29           | I        | prepriming   |                    |        |               |
| dnaB                       |     | 250-300      | 4-6      | mobile promoter, ATPase                                    | 20                 | 0.3    | 10-100        |
| primase                    |     | 60           | 1        | primer formation   | 100                | 0.2    | 1922/2020     |
| holoenzyme <sup>c</sup> -a |     | 140          | 1]       |  | 0.0000             | 12.12  |               |
|                            | ß   | 40           | 1        |  |                    |        |               |
|                            | Y   | 52           | 1        | <i>2</i>   |                    |        | 10            |
|                            | 8   | 32           | 1 }      | synthesis  | 20                 | 0.5    |               |
|                            |     | 25           | 1        | 10 <b>-</b> 11 (10 (17 (17 (17 (17 (17 (17 (17 (17 (17 (17 | 00000              | 1972   |               |
|                            | 0   | 10           | 2        |  |                    |        |               |
| pol I                      |     | 109          | 1        |  | 300                | 10     | 70            |
| ligase                     |     | 74           | 1        | ligation   | 300                | 10     | 500           |
| gyrase                     | 25  | 400          | 4 ]      |  |                    |        |               |
| nalA(A)                    |     | 210          | 2        | supertwisting  |                    |        |               |
| cou(B)                     |     | 190          | 2        | 8+0+50+10000-710077 <b>8</b> 0                             |                    |        |               |
| rep                        |     | 65           | 1        | helicase   | 50                 | 0.6    | 10            |
| dUTPase                    |     | 64           | 4        | dUTPase  | 350                | 3      | 8550          |

TABLE 11-5

Replication proteins of E. coli used by phage \$X174

\*Mg protein/kg wet weight of cells. \*dnaZ (γ polypeptide)

\*See Table 5-3 for more details.

"Normal protein level was increased this many times by introducing a plasmid or phage vector containing the encoding gene.

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## Thank you