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Investigation of Genotoxic Effects of Some Ruthenium Complexes According to Cis-platinum

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Abstract: The aim of our study was, to synthesize and evaluate the mutagenicity of Ruthenium complexes, on Salmonella strains of TA100 and TA98 by Ames Test. [Ru(L)₂(B)Pt] Cl₂ complexes were synthesized using 1, 10-phenanthroline-5,6-dione (dp) (L1), imidazo [4,5-f] [1,10] phenanthroline (ip) (L2) and 2-phenylimidazo [4,5-f] [1,10] phenanthroline (pip) (L3) as ligands and bis-1,4-di [([1,10] phenantrolin-5-il) amino]-2-buten (B) as a bridge molecule. The characterization of the intermediate and final compounds arising from this work will be carried out by means of a variety of spectroscopic methods, which include ¹H NMR, IR, MS and elemental analysis. The mutagenicity of [Ru (L)2 (B) Pt] Cl2 complexes, was investigated by the Ames Salmonella assay with strains TA 98 carrying a frameshift mutation and TA 100 base-pair substitution mutation were used in plate incorporation method in the absence of metabolic activation. RuL₂BPt complex on TA98 Salmonella strain was found mutagenically effective at the dose of 100 µg/plt. RuL₃BPt complex gave mutagenic response on TA98 strain at doses of 25, 50, 100 µg/plt, maximum mutagenic response was obtained at 25 µg/plt dose. There was no significant increase of revertants due to the treatment with the doses of 5, 10, 25, 50 µg/plt cis-platin on TA98. 100 µg/plt dose showed mutagenic effect on TA98. On TA100 strain dose related increase in the number of revertant colonies was observed but the number of revertants were not double the number of spontaneous colonies up to 100 µg/plt dose. Only 100 µg/plt dose showed mutagenic effect. The test compounds were directly effective, especially in the TA 98 Strain of Salmonella. Ruthenium derivatives was not mutagenic on the Salmonella strain of TA100.

Key words: Ru (III) complexes, mutagenicity, ames test, Salmonella typhimurium, cisplatin

INTRODUCTION

Most drugs used nowadays have considerable side effects, such as development of resistance of cancer cells to the cytostatic agents. Therefore new strategies are developed in the synthesis of new cytotoxic and therapeutic agents and in some cases the complexes by metal-ligand bonding derivatives were synthesized. Especially cisplatin is a highly effective anticancer drug. The efficiency of cisplatin is based on its ability to bind to genomic DNA. The two chlorine atoms of the cisplatin molecules are replaced by N atoms of adjacent purine bases and most of the well-known platinum anticancer complexes have at least one N-H group, which is responsible for important hydrogen-bond donor properties (Mock et al., 2001; Reedijk, 2003). Ligands possessing hydroxyimino groups together with other powerful donor groups can be very efficient chelating agents which are be able to facilitate the stabilization of high oxidation states of 3d-metals.

Recently there has been increased attention focused on the binding properties of metal complexes, particularly polypyridyl complexes of ruthenium, with biomolecules like DNA, RNA or polynucleotides (Barton and Lolis, 1985; Ortmans et al., 1998; Pyle and Barton, 1990; Ambroise and Maiya, 2000; Chao et al., 2002; Dandliker et al., 1997; Patel et al., 2002; Zhen et al., 2000; Vaidyanathan and Nair, 2002). Cationic metal complexes possessing planar aromatic ligands may bind to DNA by intercalation, which involves stacking of the planar ligand in between adjacent base pairs of the DNA duplex (Pinedo and Schornagel, 1996; Loehrer and Einhorn, 1984; Maheswari and Palaniandavar, 2004; Qu and Chaires, 2001; Kelly et al., 1999). Such metallointercalators tend to be strongly mutagenic and some have shown promising chemotherapeutic activity, which correlates well with DNA binding affinity (Komeda et al., 2000; Novakova et al., 1995). They have been useful in probing structure and function and the DNA intercalation process itself, because the ligands of metal may be varied in an easily controlled manner to facilitate the individual application. metallointercalators cleave DNA owing to the redox activity of the metal center.

Octahedral substitution-inert and redox-active ruthenium (II) complexes, incorporating aromatic planar bidentate ligands have many unique and convenient features such as strong visible absorbance in the visible range (Sitlam et al., 1992; Farrell, 2002; Arounagiri et al., 2000; Garoufis et al., 2003; Jakson and 2000; Tuite, 1998; Stemp et al., 2000; Collins et al., 1999; Holmlin et al., 1999; Watt et al., 1996). Many amine complexes of Ru (II) tend to selectively bind to imine sites in biomolecules, because of their nitrogen lone pairs available for metal ion coordination. Consequently, ruthenium complexes often selectively coordinate histidyl imidazole itrogens on proteins and the N7 site on the imidazole ring of purine nucleotides (Gray and Winkler, 1996; Messori et al., 2000a; Messori et al., 2000b; Rodriguez-Bailey et al., 1997; Clarke, 2002; Deng et al., 2005). In comparison with other complexes, the octahedral polypyridyl ruthenium complexes are much more suitable, because they are coordinatively saturated and inert to substitution. These complexes bind to DNA mainly through three types of weak interactions, these are electrostatic-dominated binding, involving interactions between the cationic metal complex and the negatively charged phosphates of the DNA. ligand π -stacking interactions, that characterized by intercalation of an extended electrondeficient planar aromatic ring system (two or three sixmembered rings), adjacent between the base pairs, through the major or the minor groove of the nucleic acid helix; and groove binding, in which the metal complex binds in the DNA grooves, associated by hydrogen bonds and/or Van der Waals interactions along the groove of the duplex. In contrast to the intercalation mode, the groove binding does not significantly perturb the DNA structure (Zimmer and Wahnert, 1986; Devran, 1986).

The Ames Test System is a short-term bacterial reverse mutation assay widely used to detect the mutagenicity of chemicals. In this test histidine dependent *Salmonella* strains carrying different mutations in various genes in the histidine operon (Maron and Ames, 1983; Waters *et al.*, 1990; Mortelmans and Zeiger, 2000). In the last several years ruthenium derivatives have been proposed as potential antitumor agents because of their cytotoxic and mutagenic effects. These complexes bind to DNA strands and inhibit DNA replication and transcription (Grguric-Sipka *et al.*, 2003; Clarke, 2003; Benkli *et al.*, 2009; Wang, 1985; Chen *et al.*, 1993).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Place and duration of the study: This research was carried out between April 2007-November 2009, at the Department

of Biology, Faculty of Science, and Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Faculty of Pharmacy, Anadolu University.

Chemistry: RuCl₃. (H₂O)n, LiCl and 1,10-phenanthroline-5,6-dione were purchased from Aldrich organics. All other reagents were used as purchased from commercial suppliers without further purification. The compounds were checked for purity by TLC on silica gel 60 F₂₅₄ (Merck). Melting points were determined by using a Gallenkamp MPD 350. BM 2.5 digital melting point apparatus and were uncorrected. Spectroscopic data were recorded on the following instruments: Elemental analyses were performed on a CHNS-O Carlo Erba EA 1108 elemental analyzer IR with a Shimadzu 470 IR spectrophotometer Anadolu University, Turkey; ¹H NMR spectra (δ (ppm) Hz) were run on a Varian (300 MHz) spectrometer in CDC13 or d6-DMSO; Fast atom bombardment (FAB) was recorded with a Finnigan Mat 95 mass spectrometer with meta-nitrobenzylalcohol as matrix. The compounds were checked for purity by TLC on silica gel 60 F254 (Merck).

Synthesis of the ligands and the bridge: The compound 1,10-phenanthroline-5,6-dione (dionphen) (L1) were bought. The ligands imidazo [4, 5-f] [1,10] phenanthroline (ip) (L2) and 2-phenylimidazo [4, 5-f] [1,10] phenanthroline (pip) (L3) were synthesized according to published procedures already (Paw and Eisenberg, Yamada et al., 1992; Wu et al., 1997; Xiong et al., 1999). A mixture of 1,10-phenanthroline-5,6-dione (1 mmol), an appropriate aldehyde derivative (1.4 mmol), glacial acetic acid (8 mL⁻¹) and ammonium acetate (1.6 g) was refluxed for 1 h; after cooling, this mixture was diluted with water and neutralized with conc. aqueous ammonia, immediately resulting in a yellow or light-yellow precipitate, which was washed with water, acetone and diethyl ether respectively and then dried in a desiccator. The pure products were obtained by recrystallization. The bridge compound bis-1,4-di [([1,10] phenantrolin-5-il) amino]-2-buten (B) was obtained using published methods (March, 1985; Alp et al., 2009). Purity of the compounds was checked controlled by thin layer chromatography.

Synthesis of RuL₂Cl₂ complexes: A mixture of RuCl₃.nH₂O (1 mmol), the appropriate phenanthroline derivative (2 mmol), LiCl (7 mmol) and DMF (8 mL⁻¹) was refluxed under argon for 8 h during which the color of the solution changed to dark. The reaction mixture was cooled, acetone was added and the mixture was kept at 0°C for 24 h. The precipitate was filtered, washed with water and diethylether and dried in vacuo (Jiang *et al.*, 2001; Wu *et al.*, 1997a; Paw and Eisenberg,

1997; Sullivan *et al.*, 1978; Goss and Abruna, 1985). Purification of the compounds was monitored by thin layer chromatography and ¹H NMR.

Ru(L1)₂Cl₂: Selected IR (KBr) ν_{moks} (cm⁻¹): 3105, 3048, 3024 (Ar C-H), 1678, 1640, 1570, 1444 (C=O, C=N, C=C), 419 (M-Cl), 327 (M-N). ¹H-NMR(300 MHz) (DMSO-d₆) δ (ppm): 7.60 (2H, t), 7.65 (2H, t), 9.20 (4H, dd), 9.25 (4H, dd). MS (ES): m/z: 593 [M+1]

Ru(L2)₂Cl₂: Selected IR (KBr) ν_{muks} (cm⁻¹): 3420, 3114, 3020 (Ar N-H, C-H), 1658, 1590, 1467 (C=N, C=C), 439 (M-Cl), 385 (M-N). ¹H-NMR (300 MHz) (DMSO-d₆) δ (ppm): 7.55 (4H, t), 7.77 (2H, q), 8.10-8.35 (4H, m), 8.86 (2H, d), 10.50 (2H, d). MS (ES): m/z: 612 [M+1]

Ru(L3)₂Cl₂: Selected IR (Kbr) ν_{maks} (cm⁻¹) : 3450, 3070, 3016 (Ar N-H, C-H), 1628, 1601, 1447 (C=N, C=C), 417 (M-Cl), 380 (M-N). ¹H-NMR (300 MHz) (DMSO-d₆) δ (ppm) : 7.55 (4H, t), 7.70-7-85 (6H, m), 8.20-8.40 (8H, m), 8.50-8.56 (4H, m), 10.50 (2H, d). MS (ES): m/z: 764 [M+1]

Synthesis of $[Ru(L)_2B](PF_6)_2$ complexes: $[Ru(L)_2B](PF_6)_2$ complexes was synthesized according to published methods (Sullivan et al., 1978; Goss and Abruna, 1985; Jing et al., 2000; Lecomte et al., 1993; Kelly et al., 1987). Ru (L)₂Cl₂ (1 mmol) and appropriate L (1 mmol) in MeOH were heated to reflux under argon for 6 h. After cooling to room temperature, MeOH was evaporated. The complex was precipitated as a dark coloured solid by the addition of saturated aqueous NH₄PF₆. The product was filtered and washed with water and diethylether. The complex was dried in for 24 h and stored in a desiccator. Recrystallization from acetonitrile/diethylether or acetone/ toluene was used for purification. The compound was characterised by IR, 1H-NMR and mass spectroscopic data.

[Ru(L1)₂B](PF₆)₂·2H₂O : Selected IR (KBr) ν_{noks} (cm⁻¹) : 3420, 3140, 3107, 3076 (Ar N-H, C-H), 1621, 1624, 1446, 1378 (C=O, C=N, C=C), 290 (M-N). ¹H-NMR (300 MHz) (DMSO-d₆) δ (ppm) : 3.36-3.38 (4H, m), 4.07-4.15 (2H, m), 7.00-7.25 (5H, m), 7.60-8.13 (7H, m), 8.38-8.95 (8H, m), 9.07-9.23 (6H, m), 9.30 (1H, bs), 9.46 (1H, bs). MS (ES): m/z: 931 [M+1].

 $[Ru(L2)_2B](PF_6)_2\cdot 2H_2O: Selected\ IR\ (KBr)\nu_{maks}(cm^{-1}): 3420, 3140, 3107, 3076\ (Ar\ N-H,C-H), 2988, 2945\ (Al\ C-H), 1625, 1620, 1439\ (C=N,C=C), 286\ (M-N).\ ^1H-NMR\ (300\ MHz)\ (DMSO-d_6)\ \delta\ (ppm): 3.38-3.40\ (4H,m), 4.08-4.16\ (2H,m), 7.60-8.13\ (6H,m), 8.15-8.34\ (12H,m), 8.58-8.75\ (8H,m), 8.95-8.99\ (2H,m), 9.09-9.26\ (2H,m), 10.41\ (1H,bs), 10.49\ (1H,bs).\ MS\ (ES): m/z: 983\ [M+1].$

[Ru(L3)₂B](PF₆)₂·2H₂O: Selected IR data (KBr disk ν_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3450, 3070, 3016 (Ar N-H, C-H), 1628, 1601, 1447 (C=N, C=C), 289 (M-N). ¹H-NMR (300 MHz) (DMSO-d₆) δ (ppm): 3.36-3.39 (4H, m), 4.06-4.15 (2H, m), 7.56-8.15 (10H, m), 8.30-8.55 (12H, m), 8.60-8.73 (14H, m), 8.97-9.33 (2H, m), 10.80 (1H, bs), 10.89 (1H, bs). MS (ES): m/z: 1059 [M+1].

Synthesis of [Ru(L)₂B] PtCl₂ complexes: The mixture of [Ru(L)₂B] (PF₆)₂ solution in EtOH and K₂PtCl₄ in H₂O was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The precipitate was filtered and washed several times with water and diethylether and dried in vacuo. The compound was characterised by IR, ¹H-NMR and mass spectroscopic data.

 $[Ru\,(L1)_2B]\,PtCl_2.2H_2O:\,Selected\,IR\,(KBr)\nu_{maks}(cm^{-1}):\,3445,\,3148,\,3100,\,3087\,(Ar\,N-H,\,C-H),\,1640,\,1632,\,1456,\,1392\,(\,C=O,\,C=N,\,C=C),\,327\,(M-Cl),\,287\,(M-N).\,^{1}H-NMR\,(300\,MHz)\,(DMSO-d_6)\,\delta(ppm):\,3.37-3.39\,(4H,m),\,4.17-4.23\,(2H,m),\,7.60-9.20\,(20H,m),\,9.55-9.75\,(6H,m),\,10.25-10.40\,(2H,bm).\,MS\,(ES):\,m/z:\,1197\,[M+1]$

 $[Ru\,(L2)_2B]\,(PF_6)_2.2H_2O:\,IR\,(KBr)v_{nuks}(cm^{-1}):\,3420,\,3147,\,3076\,(Ar\,N-H,\,C-H),\,1625,\,1619,\,1442\,(C=N,\,C=C),\,325\,(M-CI),\,288\,(M-N).\,^{1}H-NMR\,(300\,MHz)\,(DMSO-d_6)\,\delta\,(ppm):\,3.38-3.45\,(4H,\,m),\,4.11-4.18\,(2H,\,m),\,7.68--8.54\,(18H,\,m),\,8.68-8.83\,(8H,\,m),\,9.15-9.29\,(2H,\,m),\,9.86-9.98\,(2H,\,m),\,10.55-10.67\,(2H,\,bm).\,MS\,(ES):\,m/z:\,1249\,[M+1].$

[Ru (L3)₂B] PtCl₂.2H₂O: Selected IR data (KBr disk v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3450, 3070, 3016 (Ar N-H, C-H), 1628, 1601, 1447 (C=N, C=C), 325 (M-Cl), 289 (M-N). ¹H-NMR (300 MHz) (DMSO-d_o) δ (ppm): 3.36-3.39 (4H, m), 4.06-4.15 (2H, m), 7.65-8.24 (22H, m), 8.67-8.78 (14H, m), 9.27-9.45 (2H, m), 10.85-10.91 (2H, bm). MS (ES): m/z: 1325 [M+1].

Mutagenicity

Chemicals: Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), D-glucose-6-phosphate, disodium salt, L-histidine monohydrate, D-biotin, ampicillin trihydrate, 2-aminofluorene, were obtained from Sigma. Nutrient broth and nutrient agar were obtained from Oxoid, Sodium azide from Merc. Salmonella typhimurium strains TA 98 and TA100 were kindly supplied by Professor B.N. Ames (University of California, Berkeley, C.A. USA). Genotype controls and preservations of tester strains were done according to Maron and Ames (1983).

Mutagenicity assay: Ruthenium derivatives were dissolved in dimethylsulfoxide freshly for each experiment, and tested in five increasing concentrations. All experiments were done in triplicate. Mutagenicity of ruthenium derivatives was evaluated by the Salmonella/microsome assay, based on the plate-incorporation method (Maron and Ames, 1983), using *S. typhimurium* test strains TA 98 and TA 100. The test

strains from frozen cultures were grown overnight at 37°C for 12-14 h in nutrient broth. Mutagenicity assay was performed by adding 0.1 mL⁻¹ of the overnight bacterial culture ((1-2 x 108 cell mL-1) and 0.1 mL-1 of test compounds at different concentrations (dissolved in DMSO) to the test tubes containing 2 mL top agar, vortexed a few seconds and then poured onto a plate containing minimal glucose agar. The plates were incubated at 37°C for 48 h and the his+ revertant colonies were manually counted. The positive mutagens used as positive controls in each experiment were sodium azide for TA100, 4-nitro-o-phenylenediamine(at 200 µg/plate) for TA 98 and DMSO was used as a negative (solvent) control. In all experiments the concentrations were selected on the basis of the toxicity. Toxicity was apparent either as a reduction in the number of his+ revertants, or as an alteration in the auxotrophic background (i.e. background lawn).

Statistics: The statistical analysis was performed by a Dunnett's test to compare the treated groups according to control group.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the current work, we described the synthesis and characterization of some Ru (III) and Pt (II) dinuclear complexes. 1,10-phenanthroline-5,6-dione (dp), imidazo

Scheme 1: The synthesis of L and its metal complexes

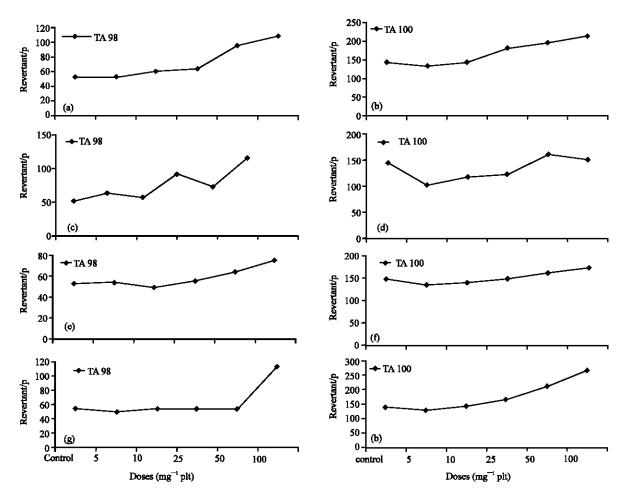


Fig. 1: (a) Mutagenicity of RuL₂BPt in the *S. typhimurium* TA98 tester strain without metabolic activation. (b) Mutagenicity of RuL₂BPt in the *S. typhimurium* TA100. (c) Mutagenicity of RuL₃BPt in the *S. typhimurium* TA98. (d) Mutagenicity of RuL₃BPt in the *S. typhimurium* TA100. (e) Mutagenicity of RuL₄BPt in the *S. typhimurium* TA100. (g) Mutagenicity of cis-platin in the *S. typhimurium* TA98. (h) Mutagenicity of cis-platin in the *S. typhimurium* TA100 (Dunnett's test, p<0.05).

[4, 5-f] [1,10] phenanthroline (ip) and 2-phenylimidazo [4, 5-f] [1,10] phenanthroline (pip) were used as ligands for $[Ru\ (L)_2(B)]PtCl_2$ complexes. The structures of the compounds obtained were elucidated by spectral data.

IR spectra of the ligands showed two bands between 3127-2786 cm⁻¹ due to v (N-H), 1654-1635 cm⁻¹ due to v (C=N) which are different from the spectrum of ruthenium (II) complexes. By comparison of the spectra of the metal complexes with those of phen-dione and phenanthroline, imidazophenanthroline or phenylimidazophenanthroline, it was determined that the bands centered at about 1700 and 1600 cm⁻¹ are carbonyl stretches on the phen-dione ligand. In general, the carbonyl stretches are relatively insensitive to changes in the metal center and its coordination environment on the carbonyl stretch is a secondary effect.

In the ¹H-NMR spectra, the peaks of the Ru (II) complexes' aromatic protons were observed at about 6.54-10.12 ppm as multiplets. Due to greater aromatic planar and stronger deshielding effect, the phenanthroline protons show large downfield shifts. In addition, the proton resonance on the nitrogen atom of the imidazole rings of ip and pip were not observed, because the proton is an active proton and exchanges quickly between the two nitrogens of the imidazole rings. A similar example has been reported in the literature (Jiang et al., 2001; Wu et al., 1997). Since there is a higher content of N atoms with stronger electronegativity in the intercalated ligand ip or pip than in the ancillary ligand phen, the protons in the intercalated ligand have more electrondeficient characteristics than those in the ancillary ligand. Elemental analyses and especially M+1 values in ES/MS spectra were as expected.

Ames Test system was used in order to identify the most significant sites for an initial assessment of the basin as to the presence of mutagenic compounds (Vargas et al., 2001). Mutagenicity of the ruthenium derivatives and cis-platin are displayed in Fig. 1. In order to show the mutagenic potential of ruthenium Compounds according to cis-platin by using *Salmonella* Strains of TA 98 and TA 100.

Results were evaluated: The Fig. 1 shows the number of revertant colonies obtained for each concentration of the ruthenium derivatives. Results were considered positive if there was a dose-related two fold increase in the number of revertant colonies.

The results of mutagenicity assay of ruthenium derivatives were given in Fig. 1a to F. those for of cisplatin displayed in Fig. 1. G-H. Toxicity was determined as to presence of significantly reduced number of revertants, compared to solvent control in TA 100 (Zeytinoglu *et al.*, 2000). Doses of ruthenium derivatives and cis-platin in excess of 100 µg/plt were toxic therefore higher doses were not used in the mutagenicity assay. 20 µg/plate 4-nitro-o-phenylenediamine (NPD) and 5 µg/plate sodium azide (AZS) were used as a positive control.

RuL₂BPt complex on TA98 *Salmonella* strain was found mutagenically effective at the dose of 100 μg/plt. The lower doses were not found mutagenic because the number of the revertant colonies did not exceed the spontaneous control colonies (Fig. 1a). RuL₂BPt at the doses of 100 μg/plate on TA 100 strain of *Salmonella* was found slightly mutagenic (Fig. 1b).

RuL₃BPt complex gave mutagenic response on TA98 strain at dose of 100 μg/plt (Fig. 1c). On the other hand none of the doses of RuL₃BPt did not exhibit any mutagenicity on Salmonella typhimurium strain TA 100 (Fig. 1d).

RuL₄BPt gave dose related increase in revertant on both strains of *Salmonella* strains. None of the doses of the chemical showed any mutagenic effect on TA98 and TA100 strains (Fig. 1e,f)

Ruthenium derivatives have been proposed as potential antitumor activity (Grguric-Sipka *et al.*, 2003). In vitro studies have been confirming the binding of Ru compounds to the DNA and inhibit the transcription by stabilization of the DNA duplex structure, cytotoxic activity tests in cultured cells indicate a direct correlation between this activity (Clarke, 2003).

There was no significant increase of revertants due to the treatment with the doses of 5, 10, 25, 50 µg/plt cis-platin on TA98. 100 µg/plt dose showed mutagenic effect on TA98 (Fig. 1g). On TA100 strain dose related

increase in the number of revertant colonies was observed but the number of revertants were not double the number of spontaneous colonies up to 100 µg/plt dose. Only 100 µg/plt dose showed mutagenic effect (Fig. 1h).

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