

Curriculum vitae: Alexander Vassilevski



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Education

1999– 2004	Russia, Moscow	Lomonosov Moscow State University, biological faculty, department of bioorganic chemistry	Major: Biochemistry. Graduated with honors.
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Teaching

2005– to date	Russia, Moscow	Lomonosov Moscow State University, biological faculty, department of bioorganic chemistry	Molecular mechanisms of membrane transport
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IBCh positions

2017–to date	Principal research fellow
	Senior research fellow

IBCh memberships

Scientific council

Language Proficiency

Russian, English

Awards

2016	Премия Правительства Москвы молодым ученым
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Titles

Doctor of Philosophy (Chemistry)

Grants and projects

2022–to date	-Модуляторы мутантных натриевых каналов
2020–2022	-
2020–2022	-Лиганды ионных каналов с уникальной селективностью
2019–2022	-

Publications

1. Tikhonova TB, Sharkov AA, Zhorov BS, **Vassilevski AA** (2024). Diverse biophysical mechanisms in voltage-gated sodium channel Nav1.4 variants associated with myotonia. *FASEB J* 38 (16), e23883,

[10.1096/fj.202400867R](https://doi.org/10.1096/fj.202400867R)

2. Chernykh MA, Duzheva MA, Kuldyshev NA, Peigneur S, Berkut AA, Tytgat J, **Vassilevski AA**, Chugunov AO (2024). Scorpion Neurotoxin BeM9 Derivative Uncovers Unique Interaction Mode with Nav1.5 Sodium Channel Isoform. *Russ. J. Bioorganic Chem.* 50 (4), 1341–1350, [10.1134/S1068162024040083](https://doi.org/10.1134/S1068162024040083)
3. Zavarzina II, Kuzmenkov AI, Dobrokhoto NA, Maleeva EE, Korolkova YV, Peigneur S, Tytgat J, Krylov NA, **Vassilevski AA**, Chugunov AO (2024). The scorpion toxin BeKm-1 blocks hERG cardiac potassium channels using an indispensable arginine residue. *FEBS Lett* 598 (8), 889–901, [10.1002/1873-3468.14850](https://doi.org/10.1002/1873-3468.14850)
4. Ojomoko LO, Kryukova EV, Egorova NS, Salikhov AI, Epifanova LA, Denisova DA, Khomutov AR, Sukhov DA, **Vassilevski AA**, Khomutov MA, Tsetlin VI, Shelukhina IV (2023). Inhibition of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors by oligoarginine peptides and polyamine-related compounds. *Front Pharmacol* 14 (14), 1327603, [10.3389/fphar.2023.1327603](https://doi.org/10.3389/fphar.2023.1327603)
5. Oparin PB, Nikodimov SS, **Vassilevski AA** (2023). Venoms with oral toxicity towards insects. *Toxicon* 235, 107308, [10.1016/j.toxicon.2023.107308](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.toxicon.2023.107308)
6. Krylov NA, Tabakmakher VM, Yureva DA, **Vassilevski AA**, Kuzmenkov AI (2023). Kalium 3.0 is a comprehensive depository of natural, artificial, and labeled polypeptides acting on potassium channels. *Protein Sci* 32 (11), e4776, [10.1002/pro.4776](https://doi.org/10.1002/pro.4776)
7. Kuzmenkov AI, Gigolaev AM, Pinheiro-Junior EL, Peigneur S, Tytgat J, **Vassilevski AA** (2023). Methionine-iso-leucine dichotomy at a key position in scorpion toxins inhibiting voltage-gated potassium channels. *Toxicon* 231, 107181, [10.1016/j.toxicon.2023.107181](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.toxicon.2023.107181)
8. Mineev KS, Chernykh MA, Motov VV, Prudnikova DA, Pavlenko DM, Kuzmenkov AI, Peigneur S, Tytgat J, **Vassilevski AA** (2023). A scorpion toxin affecting sodium channels shows double cis–trans isomerism. *FEBS Lett* 597 (18), 2358–2368, [10.1002/1873-3468.14705](https://doi.org/10.1002/1873-3468.14705)
9. Gigolaev AM, Tabakmakher VM, Peigneur S, Tytgat J, **Vassilevski AA** (2023). Structural Optimization of an α -Hairpinin Blocking Potassium Channels KV1.3. *J Evol Biochem Physiol* 59 (1), 192–199, [10.1134/S0022093023010167](https://doi.org/10.1134/S0022093023010167)
10. Gigolaev AM, Pinheiro-Junior EL, Peigneur S, Tytgat J, **Vassilevski AA** (2022). KV1.2-Selective Peptide with High Affinity. *J Evol Biochem Physiol* 58 (12), 2048–2057, [10.1134/S002209302206031X](https://doi.org/10.1134/S002209302206031X)
11. Kuzmenkov AI, Peigneur S, Nasburg JA, Mineev KS, Nikolaev MV, Pinheiro-Junior EL, Arseniev AS, Wulff H, Tytgat J, **Vassilevski AA** (2022). Apamin structure and pharmacology revisited. *Front Pharmacol* 13, 977440, [10.3389/fphar.2022.977440](https://doi.org/10.3389/fphar.2022.977440)
12. Gigolaev AM, Lushpa VA, Pinheiro-Junior EL, Tabakmakher VM, Peigneur S, Ignatova AA, Feofanov AV, Efremov RG, Mineev KS, Tytgat J, **Vassilevski AA** (2022). Artificial pore blocker acts specifically on voltage-gated potassium channel isoform KV1.6. *J Biol Chem* 298 (11), 102467, [10.1016/j.jbc.2022.102467](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbc.2022.102467)
13. Kasheverov IE, Kuzmenkov AI, Kudryavtsev DS, Chudetskiy IS, Shelukhina IV, Barykin EP, Ivanov Ivanov IA, Siniavin AE, Ziganshin RH, Baranov MS, Tsetlin VI, **Vassilevski AA**, Utkin YN (2021). Snake Toxins Labeled by Green Fluorescent Protein or Its Synthetic Chromophore are New Probes for Nicotinic acetylcholine Receptors. *Front Mol Biosci* 8 (8), 753283, [10.3389/fmolb.2021.753283](https://doi.org/10.3389/fmolb.2021.753283)
14. Chernykh MA, Kuldyshev NA, Peigneur S, Berkut AA, Tytgat J, Efremov RG, **Vassilevski AA**, Chugunov AO (2021). Derivative of Scorpion Neurotoxin BeM9 Is Selective for Insect Voltage-Gated Sodium Channels. *Russ. J. Bioorganic Chem.* 47 (4), 854–863, [10.1134/S1068162021040063](https://doi.org/10.1134/S1068162021040063)
15. Tabakmakher VM, Gigolaev AM, Peigneur S, Krylov NA, Tytgat J, Chugunov AO, **Vassilevski AA**, Efremov RG (2021). Potassium channel blocker crafted by α -hairpinin scaffold engineering. *Biophys J* 120 (12), 2471–2481, [10.1016/j.bpj.2021.04.020](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bpj.2021.04.020)
16. Tabakmakher VM, Kuzmenkov AI, Gigolaev AM, Pinheiro-Junior EL, Peigneur S, Efremov RG, Tytgat J, **Vassilevski AA** (2021). Artificial Peptide Ligand of Potassium Channel KV1.1 with High Selectivity. *J Evol Biochem Physiol* 57, 386–403, [10.1134/S0022093021020186](https://doi.org/10.1134/S0022093021020186)
17. van Cann M, Kuzmenkov A, Isensee J, Andreev-Andrievskiy A, Peigneur S, Khusainov G, Berkut A, Tytgat J, **Vassilevski A**, Hucho T (2021). Scorpion toxin MeuNaTx α -1 sensitizes primary nociceptors by selective modulation of voltage-gated sodium channels. *FEBS J* 288 (7), 2418–2435, [10.1111/febs.15593](https://doi.org/10.1111/febs.15593)
18. Mineev KS, Kuzmenkov AI, Arseniev AS, **Vassilevski AA** (2021). Structure of MeuNaTx α -1 toxin from scorpion venom highlights the importance of the nest motif. *Proteins* 89 (8), 1055–1060, [10.1002/prot.26074](https://doi.org/10.1002/prot.26074)
19. Myshkin MY, Paramonov AS, Kulbatskii DS, Surkova EA, Berkut AA, **Vassilevski AA**, Lyukmanova EN,

- Kirpichnikov MP, Shenkarev ZO (2021). Voltage-Sensing Domain of the Third Repeat of Human Skeletal Muscle NaV1.4 Channel As a New Target for Spider Gating Modifier Toxins. *Acta Naturae* 13 (1), 134–139, [10.32607/actanaturae.11279](https://doi.org/10.32607/actanaturae.11279)
20. Føns S, Ledsgaard L, Nikolaev MV, **Vassilevski AA**, Sørensen CV, Chevalier MK, Fiebig M, Laustsen AH (2020). Discovery of a Recombinant Human Monoclonal Immunoglobulin G Antibody Against α -Latrotoxin From the Mediterranean Black Widow Spider (*Latrodectus tredecimguttatus*). *Front Immunol* 11, 587825, [10.3389/fimmu.2020.587825](https://doi.org/10.3389/fimmu.2020.587825)
 21. Gigolaev AM, Kuzmenkov AI, Peigneur S, Tabakmakher VM, Pinheiro-Junior EL, Chugunov AO, Efremov RG, Tytgat J, **Vassilevski AA** (2020). Tuning Scorpion Toxin Selectivity: Switching From KV1.1 to KV1.3. *Front Pharmacol* 11, 1010, [10.3389/fphar.2020.01010](https://doi.org/10.3389/fphar.2020.01010)
 22. **(conference) Vassilevski A** (2020). P2X3 receptor antagonists from spider venom. *Toxicon* 177 Suppl 1, S3, [10.1016/j.toxicon.2019.10.017](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.toxicon.2019.10.017)
 23. **(conference) Kasheverov IE**, Oparin PB, **Vassilevski AA**, Ivanov IA, Tsetlin VI, Utkin YN (2020). Channel blockers from scorpion venoms inhibit nicotinic acetylcholine receptors. *Toxicon* 177 Suppl 1, S11, [10.1016/j.toxicon.2019.10.049](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.toxicon.2019.10.049)
 24. **(book) Dunaevsky YE**, Khadeeva NV, **Vassilevski AA**, Domash VI, Belozersky MA (2020). Proteinase Inhibitors From Buckwheat (*Fagopyrum esculentum* Moench) Seeds. , 521–532, [10.1016/B978-0-12-818553-7.00036-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-818553-7.00036-X)
 25. Кузьменков АИ, Пеньёр С, Титгат Я, **Василевский АА** (2019). Фармакологическая характеристика пептидных лигандов калиевых каналов MeKTx13-2 и MeKTx13-3 из яда скорпиона *Mesobuthus eupeus*. *Ross Fiziol Zh Im I M Sechenova* 105 (11), 1452–1462, [10.1134/S0869813919110074](https://doi.org/10.1134/S0869813919110074)
 26. Berkut AA, Chugunov AO, Mineev KS, Peigneur S, Tabakmakher VM, Krylov NA, Oparin PB, Lihonosova AF, Novikova EV, Arseniev AS, Grishin EV, Tytgat J, Efremov RG, **Vassilevski AA** (2019). Protein Surface Topography as a tool to enhance the selective activity of a potassium channel blocker. *J Biol Chem* 294 (48), 18349–18359, [10.1074/jbc.RA119.010494](https://doi.org/10.1074/jbc.RA119.010494)
 27. Myshkin MY, Männikkö R, Krumkacheva OA, Kulbatskii DS, Chugunov AO, Berkut AA, Paramonov AS, Shulepko MA, Fedin MV, Hanna MG, Kullmann DM, Bagryanskaya EG, Arseniev AS, Kirpichnikov MP, Lyukmanova EN, **Vassilevski AA**, Shenkarev ZO (2019). Cell-Free Expression of Sodium Channel Domains for Pharmacology Studies. Noncanonical Spider Toxin Binding Site in the Second Voltage-Sensing Domain of Human Nav1.4 Channel. *Front Pharmacol* 10, 953, [10.3389/fphar.2019.00953](https://doi.org/10.3389/fphar.2019.00953)
 28. Kasheverov IE, Oparin PB, Zhmak MN, Egorova NS, Ivanov IA, Gigolaev AM, Nekrasova OV, Serebryakova MV, Kudryavtsev DS, Prokopev NA, Hoang AN, Tsetlin VI, **Vassilevski AA**, Utkin YN (2019). Scorpion toxins interact with nicotinic acetylcholine receptors. *FEBS Lett* 593 (19), 2779–2789, [10.1002/1873-3468.13530](https://doi.org/10.1002/1873-3468.13530)
 29. Tabakmakher VM, Krylov NA, Kuzmenkov AI, Efremov RG, **Vassilevski AA** (2019). Kalium 2.0, a comprehensive database of polypeptide ligands of potassium channels. *Sci Data* 6 (1), 73, [10.1038/s41597-019-0074-x](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-019-0074-x)
 30. Shenkarev ZO, Shulepko MA, Peigneur S, Myshkin MY, Berkut AA, **Vassilevski AA**, Tytgat J, Lyukmanova EN, Kirpichnikov MP (2019). Recombinant Production and Structure-Function Study of the Ts1 Toxin from the Brazilian Scorpion *Tityus serrulatus*. *Dokl Biochem Biophys* 484 (1), 9–12, [10.1134/S1607672919010034](https://doi.org/10.1134/S1607672919010034)
 31. Utkin Y, **Vassilevski A**, Kudryavtsev D, Undheim EAB (2019). Editorial: Animal Toxins as Comprehensive Pharmacological Tools to Identify Diverse Ion Channels. *Front Pharmacol* 10 (APR), 423, [10.3389/fphar.2019.00423](https://doi.org/10.3389/fphar.2019.00423)
 32. Kuzmenkov AI, Nekrasova OV, Peigneur S, Tabakmakher VM, Gigolaev AM, Fradkov AF, Kudryashova KS, Chugunov AO, Efremov RG, Tytgat J, Feofanov AV, **Vassilevski AA** (2018). K1.2 channel-specific blocker from *Mesobuthus eupeus* scorpion venom: Structural basis of selectivity. *Neuropharmacology* 143, 228–238, [10.1016/j.neuropharm.2018.09.030](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuropharm.2018.09.030)
 33. Kuldyshev NA, Mineev KS, Berkut AA, Peigneur S, Arseniev AS, Tytgat J, Grishin EV, **Vassilevski AA** (2018). Refined structure of BeM9 reveals arginine hand, an overlooked structural motif in scorpion toxins affecting sodium channels. *Proteins* 86 (10), 1117–1122, [10.1002/prot.25583](https://doi.org/10.1002/prot.25583)
 34. Twomey EC, Yelshanskaya MV, **Vassilevski AA**, Sobolevsky AI (2018). Mechanisms of Channel Block in Calcium-Permeable AMPA Receptors. *Neuron* 99 (5), 956–968.e4, [10.1016/j.neuron.2018.07.027](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuron.2018.07.027)
 35. Männikkö R, Shenkarev ZO, Thor MG, Berkut AA, Myshkin MY, Paramonov AS, Kulbatskii DS, Kuzmin DA,

- Castañeda MS, King L, Wilson ER, Lyukmanova EN, Kirpichnikov MP, Schorge S, Bosmans F, Hanna MG, Kullmann DM, **Vassilevski AA** (2018). Spider toxin inhibits gating pore currents underlying periodic paralysis. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 115 (17), 4495–4500, [10.1073/pnas.1720185115](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1720185115)
36. Andreev-Andrievskiy A, Popova A, Lagereva E, Osipov D, Berkut A, Grishin E, **Vassilevski A** (2017). Pharmacological analysis of Poecilotheria spider venoms in mice provides clues for human treatment. *Toxicon* 138, 59–67, [10.1016/j.toxicon.2017.08.013](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.toxicon.2017.08.013)
 37. Kuzmenkov AI, **Vassilevski AA** (2017). Labelled animal toxins as selective molecular markers of ion channels: Applications in neurobiology and beyond. *Neurosci Lett* 679, 15–23, [10.1016/j.neulet.2017.10.050](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neulet.2017.10.050)
 38. Kuldyushev NA, Berkut AA, Peigneur S, Tytgat J, Grishin EV, **Vassilevski AA** (2017). Design of sodium channel ligands with defined selectivity – a case study in scorpion alpha-toxins. *FEBS Lett* 591 (20), 3414–3420, [10.1002/1873-3468.12839](https://doi.org/10.1002/1873-3468.12839)
 39. Kuzmenkov AI, Peigneur S, Chugunov AO, Tabakmakher VM, Efremov RG, Tytgat J, Grishin EV, **Vassilevski AA** (2017). C-Terminal residues in small potassium channel blockers OdK1 and OSK3 from scorpion venom fine-tune the selectivity. *BIOCHIM BIOPHYS ACTA* 1865 (5), 465–472, [10.1016/j.bbapap.2017.02.001](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bbapap.2017.02.001)
 40. Nadezhdin KD, Romanovskaia DD, Sachkova MY, Oparin PB, Kovalchuk SI, Grishin EV, Arseniev AS, **Vassilevski AA** (2017). Modular toxin from the lynx spider Oxyopes takobius: Structure of spiderine domains in solution and membrane-mimicking environment. *Protein Sci* 26 (3), 611–616, [10.1002/pro.3101](https://doi.org/10.1002/pro.3101)
 41. Kuzmenkov AI, Nekrasova OV, Kudryashova KS, Peigneur S, Tytgat J, Stepanov AV, Kirpichnikov MP, Grishin EV, Feofanov AV, **Vassilevski AA** (2016). Fluorescent protein-scorpion toxin chimera is a convenient molecular tool for studies of potassium channels. *Sci Rep* 6, 33314, [10.1038/srep33314](https://doi.org/10.1038/srep33314)
 42. Oparin PB, Nadezhdin KD, Berkut AA, Arseniev AS, Grishin EV, **Vassilevski AA** (2016). Structure of purotoxin-2 from Wolf spider: Modular design and membrane-Assisted mode of action in arachnid toxins. *Biochem J* 473 (19), 3113–3126, [10.1042/BCJ20160573](https://doi.org/10.1042/BCJ20160573)
 43. Kuzmenkov AI, Krylov NA, Chugunov AO, Grishin EV, **Vassilevski AA** (2016). Kalium: A database of potassium channel toxins from scorpion venom. *Database (Oxford)* 2016, baw056, [10.1093/database/baw056](https://doi.org/10.1093/database/baw056)
 44. Kuzmenkov AI, Sachkova MY, Kovalchuk SI, Grishin EV, **Vassilevski AA** (2016). Lachesana tarabaei, an expert in membrane-Active toxins. *Biochem J* 473 (16), 2495–2506, [10.1042/BCJ20160436](https://doi.org/10.1042/BCJ20160436)
 45. Kuzmenkov AI, Grishin EV, **Vassilevski AA** (2015). Diversity of Potassium Channel Ligands: Focus on Scorpion Toxins. *Biochemistry (Mosc)* 80 (13), 1764–1799, [10.1134/S0006297915130118](https://doi.org/10.1134/S0006297915130118)
 46. Dubovskii PV, **Vassilevski AA**, Kozlov SA, Feofanov AV, Grishin EV, Efremov RG (2015). Latarecins: Versatile spider venom peptides. *Cell Mol Life Sci* 72 (23), 4501–4522, [10.1007/s00018-015-2016-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00018-015-2016-x)
 47. Kuzmenkov AI, **Vassilevski AA**, Kudryashova KS, Nekrasova OV, Peigneur S, Tytgat J, Feofanov AV, Kirpichnikov MP, Grishin EV (2015). Variability of potassium channel blockers in Mesobuthus eupeus scorpion venom with focus on Kv1.1: An integrated transcriptomic and proteomic study. *J Biol Chem* 290 (19), 12195–12209, [10.1074/jbc.M115.637611](https://doi.org/10.1074/jbc.M115.637611)
 48. (conference) Feofanov AV, Kudryashova KS, Nekrasova OV, **Vassilevski AA**, Kuzmenkov AI, Korolkova YV, Grishin EV, Kirpichnikov MP (2015). Quantitative confocal microscopy analysis as a basis for search and study of potassium kv1.X channel blockers. *Springer Proceedings in Physics* 164 (6), 249–254, [10.1007/978-3-319-16919-4_32](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-16919-4_32)
 49. Berkut AA, Peigneur S, Myshkin MY, Paramonov AS, Lyukmanova EN, Arseniev AS, Grishin EV, Tytgat J, Shenkarev ZO, **Vassilevski AA** (2015). Structure of membrane-active toxin from crab spider Heriades melloteei suggests parallel evolution of sodium channel gating modifiers in Araneomorphae and Mygalomorphae. *J Biol Chem* 290 (1), 492–504, [10.1074/jbc.M114.595678](https://doi.org/10.1074/jbc.M114.595678)
 50. Berkut AA, Usmanova DR, Peigneur S, Oparin PB, Mineev KS, Odintsova TI, Tytgat J, Arseniev AS, Grishin EV, **Vassilevski AA** (2014). Structural similarity between defense peptide from wheat and scorpion neurotoxin permits rational functional design. *J Biol Chem* 289 (20), 14331–14340, [10.1074/jbc.M113.530477](https://doi.org/10.1074/jbc.M113.530477)
 51. Sachkova MY, Slavokhotova AA, Grishin EV, **Vassilevski AA** (2014). Genes and evolution of two-domain toxins from lynx spider venom. *FEBS Lett* 588 (5), 740–745, [10.1016/j.febslet.2014.01.018](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.febslet.2014.01.018)
 52. Sachkova MY, Slavokhotova AA, Grishin EV, **Vassilevski AA** (2014). Structure of the yellow sac spider Cheiracanthium puncturum genes provides clues to evolution of insecticidal two-domain knottin toxins. *Insect Mol Biol* 23 (4), 527–538, [10.1111/imb.12097](https://doi.org/10.1111/imb.12097)

53. Slavokhotova AA, Rogozhin EA, Musolyamov AK, Andreev YA, Oparin PB, Berkut AA, **Vassilevski AA**, Egorov TA, Grishin EV, Odintsova TI (2014). Novel antifungal α -hairpinin peptide from *Stellaria media* seeds: Structure, biosynthesis, gene structure and evolution. *Plant Mol Biol* 84 (12), 189–202, [10.1007/s11103-013-0127-z](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11103-013-0127-z)
54. Slavokhotova AA, Naumann TA, Price NPJ, Rogozhin EA, Andreev YA, **Vassilevski AA**, Odintsova TI (2014). Novel mode of action of plant defense peptides - hevein-like antimicrobial peptides from wheat inhibit fungal metalloproteases. *FEBS J* 281 (20), 4754–4764, [10.1111/febs.13015](https://doi.org/10.1111/febs.13015)
55. Arzamasov AA, **Vassilevski AA**, Grishin EV (2014). Chlorotoxin and related peptides: Short insect toxins from scorpion venom. *Russ. J. Bioorganic Chem.* 40 (4), 359–369, [10.1134/S1068162014040013](https://doi.org/10.1134/S1068162014040013)
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58. Чугунов АО, **Василевский AA** (2013). Эволюционная «гонка вооружений»: нейротоксины против ионных каналов. 11, 42–48.
59. Utkina LL, Andreev YA, Rogozhin EA, Korostyleva TV, Slavokhotova AA, Oparin PB, **Vassilevski AA**, Grishin EV, Egorov TA, Odintsova TI (2013). Genes encoding 4-Cys antimicrobial peptides in wheat *Triticum kiharae* Dorof. et Migush.: Multimodular structural organization, intraspecific variability, distribution and role in defence. *FEBS J* 280 (15), 3594–3608, [10.1111/febs.12349](https://doi.org/10.1111/febs.12349)
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