Characterization of the mitochondrial genome of an ancient amphipod *Halice* sp. MT-2017 (Pardaliscidae) from 10,908 m in the Mariana Trench

Jun-yuan Li1,2, Cong Zeng1,3, Guo-yong Yan1,2 & Li-sheng He1

Small amphipods (*Halice* sp. MT-2017) with body length <1 cm were collected from the Challenger Deep (~10,920 m below sea level). The divergence time of their lineage was approximately 109 Mya, making this group ancient compared to others under study. The mitochondrial genome of *Halice* sp. shared the usual gene components of metazoans, comprising 13 protein coding genes (PCGs), 22 transfer RNAs (tRNAs), and 2 ribosomal RNAs (rRNAs). The arrangement of these genes, however, differed greatly from that of other amphipods. Of the 15 genes that were rearranged with respect to the pancrustacean gene pattern, 12 genes (2 PCGs, 2 rRNAs, and 8 tRNAs) were both translocated and strand-reversed. In contrast, the mitochondrial genomes in other amphipods never show so many reordered genes, and in most instances, only tRNAs were involved in strand-reversion-coupled translocation. Other characteristics, including reversed strand nucleotide composition bias, relatively higher composition of non-polar amino acids, and lower evolutionary rate, were also identified. Interestingly, the latter two features were shared with another hadal amphipod, *Hirondella gigas*, suggesting their possible associations with the adaptation to deep-sea extreme habitats. Overall, our data provided a useful resource for future studies on the evolutionary and adaptive mechanisms of hadal faunas.

Amphipods are widely spread in both marine and freshwater habitats. Even in some extreme environments, such as the Arctic ice pack, Antarctic tide pools, and subterranean waters, amphipods are important constituents of macrofaunal communities. The hadal zone, which is the deepest part of the ocean (from approximately 6,000 m to 11,000 m), is a harsh environment characterized by high hydrostatic pressure, food supply scarcity, constant darkness, and low temperature. Amphipods have emerged as a representative fauna in this ecosystem, particularly at depths exceeding 8,000 m. Because of their ease of capture by baited trapping, these animals represent one of the few faunas that can be readily obtained in large numbers and diversities. The studies on them would provide statistically meaningful data for various aspects, including feeding habits, population genetics, and even adaptive mechanisms in deep-sea extreme environments.

Pardaliscidae is one of the families in Amphipoda attractive to the researchers of deep sea faunas as most representatives of them inhabit in the abyssal or hadal environment, and some members even extend to the greatest depth below 10,000 m. During our sampling campaign to the Mariana Trench in March 2017, individuals of amphipods in Pardaliscidae (*Halice* sp. MT-2017) were obtained at several sampling points (~11,000 m deep). They showed a body length less than 1 cm and had a similar density as another hadal amphipod, *Hirondella gigas*, which was a common species in Mariana Trench and could be collected below 10,000 m as well.

The mitochondrial genome has been established as a useful tool for studying phylogeny, molecular evolution, and phylogeography because of its conserved gene content, easily accessible nature, and relatively high evolutionary rate. Currently, sequences of mitochondrial genomes from amphipods within seven superfamilies, Allocranonyctoidea, Callipodoidea, Caprelloidea, Gammaroidea, Hadzioida, Lysianassoidea, and Talitroidea,
have been reported. Comparative studies across these seven superfamilies indicated that most amphipod mitochondrial genomes shared typical metazoan gene content comprising 37 genes—13 protein coding genes (PCGs), 2 ribosomal genes (rRNAs), and 22 transfer genes (tRNAs), as well as a putative non-coding control region (CR)\(^2\)-\(^2\). However, the order of these genes differed across superfamilies\(^2\), suggesting that there was an extensive gene rearrangement process during the evolution of Amphipoda. Moreover, characteristics of certain superfamilies have been identified. For example, the mitochondrial DNAs of Metacrangonyctidae (Hadzioidea) showed an opposite strand nucleotide bias to that observed in the majority of crustacean mitochondrial genomes, but this reversal of strand bias has seldom been seen in other amphipod superfamilies\(^2\).

Among all available mitochondrial genomes of amphipods, data from hadal extreme environments are so scarce that only one mitochondrial genome of *H. gigas* (Lysianassoidea) has been reported to date\(^2\). Characterization of a novel mitochondrial sequence from the hadal trench, therefore, would definitely contribute to the available deep-sea genetic resources. In the present study, the mitochondrial genome of *Halice* sp. MT-2017 (Pardaliscidae) collected from nearly 11,000 m deep in the Mariana Trench was sequenced, annotated, and compared with the mitochondrial genomes of other members from shallower habitats. The features of its gene arrangement, the bias of strand nucleotide composition, and the codon/ amino acid usage pattern were also described, furthermore, the evolutionary characteristics of the mitochondrial genomes were discussed.

### Results and Discussion

#### Sampling information of *Halice* sp. MT-2017.

*Halice* sp. MT-2017 (Fig. 1) was collected from the Mariana Trench during the TS-03 cruise in March 2017. Together with *H. gigas*, *Halice* sp. MT-2017 were collected from all eight sampling sites below 10,000 m (Table S1). Statistical analysis indicated no significant difference (*P* > 0.5) between these two hadal species in terms of their abundance at depths below 10,000 m. From 7,000–9,000 m, no *Halice* sp. MT-2017 specimens were trapped; however, many *H. gigas* specimens were collected in that depth range (Table S1). This suggests that *Halice* sp. MT-2017 could be a native species in the hadal environment. Moreover, at the Challenger Deep site, *Halice* sp. is another common species besides *H. gigas*.

#### Mitochondrial genome organization.

A total of 57,366,782 clean reads (8,605,017,300 base pairs [bp]) were generated by Illumina HiSeq sequencing. After assembling, an approximately complete mitochondrial genome of the hadal *Halice* sp. MT-2017 was obtained with a coverage depth of 400.302 ×. The total length of the assembled mitochondrial genome was 15,199 bp (GenBank accession ID: MH294484), which was comparable to the mitochondrial DNAs from other amphipods ranging from 14,113 to 18,424 bp\(^2\). The nearly complete mitochondrial genome contained 37 genes, comprising 13 PCGs, 22 tRNAs, and 2 rRNAs (Table 1), which showed the same components as other metazoan mitochondrial genomes\(^2\). Because the CR was a constituent part for the metazoan mitochondrial DNAs\(^2\), it was assumed to be located in the unprocurable region between the two rRNA genes. The ubiquity of the repeated sequences and low complexity in the CR impeded automatic assembly *in silico*. Amplifications by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) also failed to complement the remaining CR, probably because of the AT-abundant regions, poly(A)/poly(T) stretches, or hairpin structures\(^2\).

#### Phylogenetic analysis and divergence time estimation.

The hadal *Halice* sp. MT-2017 from the Mariana Trench clustered robustly with the abyssal species collected at 2567.6 m from the Iceland Basin\(^2\), and separated from others in shallower water (289.4–510.9 m) using Bayesian and maximum likelihood methods based on partial cytochrome c oxidase subunit I (cox1) barcodes (Fig. S1). In terms of all the taxa in *Halice* used in the phylogram, although none of them had been nominated a specific name, the genetic distances between them, calculated by the *p*-distance, were large enough to delineate them at the species level (Table S2), considering that 0.03 of the *p*-distance had commonly been used as a threshold for amphipod species demarcation\(^2\). The vertical and geographic distribution of *Halice* discovered in hadal trenches and Icelandic waters conformed to the “tropical submergence” hypothesis, which proposed that closely related species lived in shallower waters...
at high latitudes and deeper waters at low latitudes, a reflection of adaptation to cold temperature. Other evidence can also be seen in hydrothermal vents, an ecosystem different from those of Icelandic waters and hadal trenches, where *Halice* (*H. hesmonectes*, with no barcodes submitted) were distributed only in the vicinity of low temperature vent openings (2–8 °C). Considering the fact that *Hirondellea* (which *H. gigas* belonged to) was a shallower-Antarctic and deep-sea genus, also in line with "tropical submergence", hadal amphipods supposedly originated or derived from relatively higher latitudes.

Interfamilial phylogenetic analyses were performed with a dataset of 13 amphipods as ingroup based on the concatenated nucleic acid and amino acid sequences of 13 protein coding genes (PCGs) using the maximum likelihood (ML) method. The topologies of the two phylogenetic trees were nearly congruent in our study, illustrating eight separate clades which corresponded to eight identified families or superfamilies (Fig. S2). The *p*-distance analysis showed that irrespective of the clade represented by Pardaliscidae, the inter-group genetic distances in the other seven superfamilies ranged from 32.43% (between Lysianassoidea and Talitroidea) to 40.28% (between Hadizioidea and Caprelloidea) (Table S3). Regarding Pardaliscidae, the genetic distance to the superfamily Talitroidea was the shortest (38.65%) and the distance to Caprelloidea was the longest (41.52%). Given the minimal inter-clade divergence for Pardaliscidae (38.65%) falling into the range of the inter-superfamily divergence

| Feature | Strand | From | To | Size (bp) | Start codon | Stop codon | GC content (%) | Intergenic nucleotides |
|---------|--------|------|----|----------|-------------|------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| tRN1L   | L      | 61   | 1,121 | 1,061    |             |            | 19.79          | 0                    |
| tRN1L tagging | L      | 1,122 | 1,188 | 67       |             |            | 32.84          | 0                    |
| nad1    | L      | 1,189 | 2,109 | 921      | ATA         | TAG        | 26.71          | 25                   |
| tRN1F7 tagging | L      | 2,135 | 2,199 | 65       |             |            | 13.85          | 10                   |
| nad5    | L      | 2,210 | 3,931 | 1,722    | ATT         | TAG        | 26.66          | −1                   |
| tRN1F(5)aa | L      | 3,931 | 3,993 | 63       |             |            | 20.63          | 11                   |
| tRN1E(its) | H      | 4,005 | 4,069 | 65       |             |            | 15.38          | −32                  |
| tRN1V(tac) | L      | 4,038 | 4,093 | 56       |             |            | 16.07          | −22                  |
| tRN1N(gtt) | L      | 4,072 | 4,136 | 65       |             |            | 18.46          | 2                    |
| tRN1S1(tct) | H      | 4,139 | 4,193 | 55       |             |            | 25.45          | 5                    |
| tRN1A(tgc) | L      | 4,199 | 4,260 | 62       |             |            | 19.35          | 30                   |
| tRN1Q(ttg) | H      | 4,291 | 4,355 | 65       |             |            | 18.46          | 8                    |
| tRN1C(gca) | H      | 4,364 | 4,429 | 66       |             |            | 22.73          | 9                    |
| tRN1Y(gta) | H      | 4,439 | 4,505 | 67       |             |            | 16.42          | 5                    |
| tRN1I(gat) | L      | 4,511 | 4,575 | 65       |             |            | 29.23          | 0                    |
| tRN1M(cat) | L      | 4,576 | 4,639 | 64       |             |            | 25.00          | 1                    |
| nad2    | L      | 4,641 | 5,633 | 993      | ATT         | TAA        | 22.96          | 0                    |
| tRN1W(tca) | L      | 5,634 | 5,698 | 65       |             |            | 16.92          | 0                    |
| cox1    | L      | 5,699 | 7,240 | 1,542    | ATT         | TAA        | 33.33          | −5                   |
| tRN1L2(taa) | L      | 7,236 | 7,298 | 63       |             |            | 25.40          | 0                    |
| cox2    | L      | 7,299 | 7,971 | 673      | ATA         | T(AA)      | 30.01          | 0                    |
| tRN1K(mt) | L      | 7,972 | 8,040 | 69       |             |            | 21.74          | −5                   |
| tRN1D(gtc) | L      | 8,036 | 8,099 | 64       |             |            | 20.31          | 0                    |
| atp8    | L      | 8,100 | 8,258 | 159      | ATC         | TAA        | 25.79          | −7                   |
| atp6    | L      | 8,252 | 8,920 | 699      | ATG         | TAA        | 28.55          | 2                    |
| cox3    | L      | 8,923 | 9,711 | 789      | ATG         | TAA        | 32.07          | −1                   |
| tRN1G(tcc) | L      | 9,711 | 9,771 | 61       |             |            | 18.03          | 0                    |
| nad3    | L      | 9,772 | 10,125 | 354     | ATT         | TAA        | 28.81          | 0                    |
| tRN1R(tcg) | L      | 10,126 | 10,189 | 64     |             |            | 18.75          | 7                    |
| tRN1H(gtg) | H      | 10,197 | 10,261 | 65     |             |            | 12.31          | 3                    |
| nad4    | H      | 10,265 | 11,572 | 1,308   | ATG         | TAA        | 29.05          | −7                   |
| nad4L   | H      | 11,566 | 11,856 | 291    | ATG         | TAA        | 24.74          | 27                   |
| tRN1T(tgt) | L      | 11,884 | 11,946 | 63     |             |            | 11.11          | −3                   |
| nad6    | L      | 11,944 | 12,444 | 501    | ATT         | TAA        | 25.15          | 2                    |
| cytb    | L      | 12,447 | 13,562 | 1,116   | ATG         | TAA        | 30.65          | 9                    |
| tRN1S2(tga) | L      | 13,572 | 13,633 | 62     |             |            | 11.29          | 100                  |
| trnS    | L      | 13,734 | 14,468 | 735    |             |            | 22.59          | 0                    |
| control region | H* | 14,469 | 15,199 | 731 | | | 5.61 | 0 |

Table 1. Gene content of the *Halice* sp. MT-2017 mitochondrial genome. Note: *The control region of the mitochondrial genome was hypothetically located on the H strand inferred from the reversals of strand asymmetry in protein coding genes.*
defined by the other seven clades (32.43–40.28%), it is reasonable to discriminate Pardaliscidae from the other groups at a superfamily level.

The dendrogram with 95% credible intervals (CIs) for divergence time estimation was constructed from Bayesian analysis, revealing a similar topology to the ML trees with high posterior probabilities (Fig. 2). Although the credible intervals were large in some nodes due to the lack of fossil calibration, some interesting results still could be inferred. The hadal amphipods under study (Halice sp. MT-2017 and H. gigas) were polyphyletic, with members diverging at different times and belonging to different taxonomic classifications. The hadal cladogenesis for Pardaliscidae (which Halice belongs to) was approximately 109 Mya (95% CI: 76.58–143.57 Mya) during the Cretaceous period. They could belong to one of the ancient faunas that survived the catastrophe in the Late Cretaceous (Maestrichtian)\(^32,33\), during which uncertain factors, such as comet impacts, volcanic eruptions, acid rain, sea level transgressions, and sea level regressions, eradicated more than half of the marine species\(^33\). The discovery of relatively primitive relict groups in the deep sea has also occurred for many other taxa, such as starfishes, isopods, and bivalves. The great depths of the ocean are speculated to provide refuge for their continued existence\(^34\). Nevertheless, in more cases, the deep-sea faunas were relatively "young," occurring no earlier than the Cenozoic period (65.5 Mya to present)\(^35\). H. gigas in the present study dated back to around 58 Mya (95% CI: 38.46–77.50 Mya), a divergence time earlier than that of the Halice lineage, and possibly went through the boundary of the Paleocene and Eocene periods, during which a climate-driven anoxia or dysoxia caused extinctions in the deep sea\(^35,36\). Only the taxa with strong resistance would escape the radical extinction and show allopatric speciation\(^36,37\). Considering the significant discrepancy in body sizes (\(<1\) cm for Halice sp. MT-2017 vs 2–5 cm for H. gigas, trapped concurrently), and the phylogenetic status of Halice sp. MT-2017 and H. gigas, the evolution of these two species could have proceeded by different biological processes and physiological mechanisms.

Mitochondrial gene rearrangement. The gene arrangements of eight superfamilies were compared to the hypothetical ancestral pancrustacean (hexapods and crustaceans) gene order\(^38\) (Fig. 3). There were 15 genes in Halice sp. MT-2017 that showed altered locations, among which 12 were both translocated and strand-reversed. The reverse-stranded-translocation event, which has rarely been discovered in the rRNAs and PCGs of other amphipod mitochondrial genomes, resulted in the switch of transcriptional polarity in relevant genes of Halice sp. MT-2017, including two rRNAs, two PCGs (nad1, nad5), and eight tRNA genes (trnL [CUN], trnR, trnF, trnE, trnV, trnN, trnS [AGY], and trnA). Regarding PCGs, gene rearrangements in other amphipod mitochondrial genomes mostly occurred in nad6 and cytb\(^27\). For Halice sp. MT-2017, however, the gene orders of nad6 and cytb were identical to those of the pancrustacean ground pattern. Alternatively, the changes in the order of PCGs were focused on the rearrangements of nad1 and nad5 (Fig. 3). This pattern of change for PCGs was not exclusive to Halice sp. MT-2017, but has only been seen in some specific cases, such as the rearrangements of nad1 in Pallaseopsis kessleri (Gammaroidea)\(^39\) and nad5 in Caprella mutica (Caprelloidea)\(^39\). Regarding the altered gene order of tRNAs with respect to the ancestral pancrustacean pattern, the translocation of trnG and the typical

---

**Figure 2.** Chronogram of eight superfamilies in Amphipoda inferred using the Bayesian relaxed-molecular clock method. *denoted Halice sp. MT-2017 specimens collected from the hadal trench in the present study. The resulting superfamilies were shown adjacent to the branches. Four sequences from Isopoda were used as outgroups. The size of the nodes in the tree corresponded to the clade credibility. Node bars indicated 95% credible intervals of the estimated divergence time. The italic number indicated the placement for the calibration taxa. The accession numbers of the sequences used in the phylogenetic analysis were listed in Supplementary Table S8.
Figure 3. Comparison of gene arrangements among different superfamilies in Amphipoda. Genes with rearranged locations related to the hypothetical pancrustacean gene pattern were highlighted in gray color. The genes above the line were encoded by the light (or plus) strand, whereas, the ones below the line were encoded by the heavy (or minus) strand. The CRs of Halice sp. MT-2017 and Metacrangonyctidae were in the middle of the line to denote the uncertainty of the replication origin. Segments with no explicit sequences were shown by dotted lines in some of the central bold lines because of the technical barriers. Transfer RNAs were labelled as their corresponding single letter amino acid code apart from L1, L2, S1, and S2 for trnL (CUN), trnL (UUR), trnS (AGN), and trnS (UCN), respectively. The name of the superfamily was in bold and bracketed. The representative of the superfamily was listed below the central line. The mitochondrial genome of H. gigas was excluded from comparison because of its uncertain gene order caused by the unjoined contigs.
derived pattern of the gene string trnA, trnS (AGN), trnN, trnE, and trnR were assumed to be two apomorphic features in the extant amphipod species35,41 (Fig. 3). However, Halice sp. MT-2017 retained the unaltered position of trnG relative to the location in the ancestral pancrustacean mitochondrial genome and the alternation of the tRNA order gave rise to a unique tRNA string (trnE, trnN, trnS [AGY], trnA, trnQ, trnC, and trnV) that was different from the above apomorphic tRNA gene block (trna, trnS [AGN], trnN, trnE, and trnR). Moreover, this special tRNA string has not been seen in other metazoan mitochondrial genomes in the MitoZoa database40. A similar phenomenon also occurred in the mitochondrial genome of Pariyale hawaiiensis42,43, which had a specific tRNA cluster, trnI, trnA, trnN, trnR, and trnT, and also without related MitoZoa records. In summary, Halice sp. MT-2017 showed particular rearrangements and polarity alternations in its mitochondrial genes, which were seldom seen in most amphipods from other superfamilies.

Further, CREX44 was applied to deduce the gene rearrangement scenarios with reference to the ancestral pancrustacean gene pattern. The mitochondrial genome of Halice sp. MT-2017 underwent two gene transpositions (trnN and trnV), one inversion-coupled transposition (trnR), three wide-ranging reversals of strands—one involving a gene block unexpectedly composed of 20 genes and the other two including trnP and a gene string (trnS [UCN], cytb, nad6, trnP, trnT, nad4, nad4, and trnH), respectively—and two complex tandem duplications with subsequent random gene loss (TDLRs) to its present gene order (Fig. S3). The large scale of this inversion event has not been observed in other amphipods; however, it is a characteristic usually seen in the mitochondrial genomes of echinoderms45 and metamastriate ticks46,47. Mechanistically, the long-range reversions in the mitochondrial genome could be well explained by intra-mitochondrial recombination45,46, in which both DNA breakage and reconnection are required. A hot spot for the recombination event was thus posited to be relevant to the non-coding AT-rich CR with the origin of replication36,37. In the Halice sp. MT-2017 mitochondrial genome, moreover, excluding the CR between the two rRNAs, there were intergenic non-coding small spacers spread over 17 locations, ranging from 1 to 100 bp, and comprising 256 bp in total, with a rich AT content of 84.38%. Both the significant mitochondrial recombination in this hadal species could be explained as a special approach to escape the inescapable DNA replication, transcription, or both59. CR inversion has been postulated in Metacrangonyctidae24 based on the presence of a gene block unexpectedly composed of 20 genes and the other two including trnP and a gene string (trnS [UCN], cytb, nad6, trnP, trnT, nad4, nad4, and trnH), respectively—and two complex tandem duplications with subsequent random gene loss (TDLRs) to its present gene order (Fig. S3). The large scale of this inversion event has not been observed in other amphipods; however, it is a characteristic usually seen in the mitochondrial genomes of echinoderms45 and metamastriate ticks46,47. Mechanistically, the long-range reversions in the mitochondrial genome could be well explained by intra-mitochondrial recombination45,46, in which both DNA breakage and reconnection are required. A hot spot for the recombination event was thus posited to be relevant to the non-coding AT-rich CR with the origin of replication36,37. In the Halice sp. MT-2017 mitochondrial genome, moreover, excluding the CR between the two rRNAs, there were intergenic non-coding small spacers spread over 17 locations, ranging from 1 to 100 bp, and comprising 256 bp in total, with a rich AT content of 84.38%. Both the non-coding CR and small spacers were particularly scattered adjacent to genes involved in the above deduced rearrangement courses (Figs 3 and S3) (e.g., the intergenic spacers flanking the gene string from trnH to trnS2 and the gene trnP, which were involved in reversal 2 and reversal 3, respectively; the CR between trnS and rrnL; and the spacers abutting trnP, which were allowed for the TDLR 1). These non-coding regions probably exhibited the traced relics generated from the antecedent gene rearrangement events38.

For most metazoan mitochondrial DNA, there was a notable lack of genetic recombinations30,21. The significant mitochondrial recombination in this hadal species could be explained as a special approach to escape the consequences of Muller’s ratchet45,55. The “ratchet mechanism” states that deleterious mutations would accumulate more easily, especially in a population without recombination. For mitochondrial DNA, this inexorable process would bring about higher and higher mutational levels, to the degree of complete dysfunctionality and even extinction of the genome. Therefore, gene recombination could be a survival strategy for the hadal Halice sp. MT-2017 to offset the high mutational rates of mitochondrial DNA56.

**Base composition bias of the mitochondrial genome.** The nearly complete mitochondrial genome of Halice sp. MT-2017 had an AT content of 74.40%, which was comparable to the typical AT richness in many other amphipod species (Table 2; from 62.24% to 76.03% for complete mitochondrial genomes and from 69.79% to 74.35% for incomplete ones). A comparison of AT contents in 13 PCGs across eight superfamilies showed that there was no distinct pattern observed in both strands (Fig. 4a).

The mitochondrial genome of Halice sp. MT-2017 was skewed away from C in favor of G, resulting in a positive value (0.224) for GC skewness, which was opposite to that of most other amphipods, as shown in Table 2.

To further explore this reversed direction of skewness, the skew values of 13 PCGs were compared. As shown in Fig. 4b, six superfamilies represented by Onisimus nanseni, Caprella scaura, Pseudocephalus gorbeanus, Brachyurospus grewingkii, P. hawaiiensis, and Gonodogeneia antarctica followed the common pattern of malacostracans37, where the genes encoded on the light strand showed negative GC skew values and, conversely, the genes on the heavy strand exhibited positive GC skew values. However, for Halice sp. MT-2017 and M. longipes (from the family Metacrangonyctidae)38 inhabiting subterranean waters38, the PCGs on the light strand showed a reversed pattern in which almost all GC skew values were positive, with the exception of atp8 and nad6 in M. longipes. This GC skew inversion was also detected in nad4 of Halice sp. MT-2017 and cytb of M. longipes on the heavy strand (Fig. 4b). Regarding AT skewness (Fig. 4c), it was noted that the overall AT skewness for most superfamilies under study was more intensively inclined on the heavy strand than on the light strand. On the contrary, inclinations of AT skewness in Halice sp. MT-2017 and M. longipes showed a reversed pattern for the two strands, suggesting the reversion of stand bias for these two species. As to the other hadal species, H. gigas, which belonged to the same superfamily (Lysianassoidea) as the amphipod O. nanseni in the present study, the GC skew values for all of its 13 PCGs were positive; however, this overall pattern did not accord well with that of O. nanseni (Fig. 4b). Therefore, there was the possibility that the mitochondrial genome of H. gigas had also suffered strand bias reversion during its evolution, although the two unjointed contigs in its mitochondrial DNA impeded our reassurance of this hypothesis. An explanation for the strand bias reversion could be related to the reversal of mitochondrial CR, the inversion of which would change the mutational constraints for the two mitochondrial strands during DNA replication, transcription, or both59. CR inversion has been postulated in Metacrangonyctidae24 based on the inverted polarity of trnS (UCN) and cytb near the CR. Halice sp. MT-2017 in the present study showed a similar case with inverted rrnS and rrnl flanking the CR. Based on the analysis in the present study, the taxon showing the reversed pattern did not appear to be phylogenetically clustered or have related ecological habitats; therefore, the reversal of the ordinary strand bias probably occurred independently multiple times during the evolution of amphipods, especially in the relatively ancient superfamilies represented by Halice sp. MT-2017 and M. longipes (Fig. 2).
| Species | Whole mitochondrial genome | Protein coding genes | tRNA | rRNA |
|---------|-----------------------------|---------------------|------|------|
| | | | | |
| **Halice sp. MT-2017** | | | | |
| | 15199 | 32.84 | 41.56 | 15.67 | 9.93 | 74.40 | −0.117 | 0.224 |
| | 15049 | 30.10 | 46.80 | 16.50 | 11.70 | 71.90 | −0.302 | 0.170 |
| | 14734 | 35.03 | 35.29 | 11.90 | 17.78 | 70.32 | −0.004 | −0.198 |
| | 15079 | 32.70 | 33.73 | 14.54 | 19.03 | 66.43 | −0.015 | −0.134 |
| | 15427 | 33.20 | 34.75 | 13.28 | 18.77 | 69.95 | −0.023 | −0.171 |
| | 14113 | 37.36 | 38.67 | 11.56 | 12.41 | 76.03 | −0.017 | −0.035 |
| | 12924 | 33.05 | 40.29 | 15.65 | 11.02 | 73.34 | −0.099 | 0.174 |
| | 14178 | 37.91 | 33.27 | 10.25 | 18.57 | 71.18 | 0.065 | −0.289 |
| | 15460 | 35.44 | 34.35 | 10.03 | 20.18 | 69.79 | 0.016 | −0.336 |
| | 17118 | 31.22 | 31.02 | 13.07 | 24.68 | 62.24 | 0.003 | −0.307 |
| | 15534 | 33.22 | 34.20 | 12.68 | 19.90 | 67.42 | −0.015 | −0.222 |
| | 14301 | 36.23 | 38.12 | 11.18 | 14.47 | 74.35 | −0.025 | −0.128 |
| | 18424 | 34.85 | 35.29 | 10.61 | 19.26 | 70.13 | −0.006 | −0.290 |

**Table 2.** Nucleotide composition of the mitochondrial genomes in different amphipods. Note: All statistical values were calculated with the light strand as reference. Bold species names indicated incomplete sequences in the relevant part of the mitochondrial genome. Only the mitochondrial genome of *H. gigas* was represented by two contigs due to its incompleteness. The number of tRNAs is noted after the slash in the sequence length column.
There was a total of 3,670 amino acids in the 13 mitochondrial PCGs of *Halice* sp. MT-2017. The amino acid composition of *Halice* sp. MT-2017 was consistent with those of the amphipods from the other seven superfamilies (Fig. 5A), with Leu and Ser the most frequently used amino acids, accounting for approximately a quarter of the amino acids in total, and Cys, Arg, and Glu being rarely used. Nevertheless, there were still small variations in the frequency of each amino acid between different species. Considering that the amino acid composition and properties could have an influence on the function of proteins, these two parameters were compared between the two hadal species (*Halice* sp. MT-2017 and *H. gigas*) and the other 11 amphipods. Statistical t-tests showed that the percentages of non-polar amino acids from the two hadal mitochondrial genomes (64.50 ± 0.39%) were significantly higher than those of the amphipods in shallow water (62.61 ± 0.67%) (Fig. 5B). Accordingly, the composition of the polar uncharged amino acids and charged amino acids were remarkably higher in the non-hadal amphipods than in the hadal amphipods (Table S4). Therefore, polarity seemed to play an important role in protein stability under the conditions of the hadal environment. It has been reported that only tens of atmospheres of pressure would be necessary to cause dysfunction in the protein activity of shallow water species. The fauna in the hadal trench would likely have evolved special mechanisms to cope with the thousands of atmospheres of pressure in the deep sea. At denaturing pressure, membranes or related processes are among the most sensitive to hydrostatic pressure. As the 13 PCGs of mitochondria were all transmembrane proteins embedded in the hydrophobic lipid chains of the membrane, the increase in non-polar amino acid content might be conducive to the compaction interaction between the membrane proteins and the lipid chains in the mitochondrial membrane, thus ameliorating the potential of damage caused by the pressure on the membrane. The maintenance of the mitochondrial structure provided a premise for these hadal amphipods to sustain metabolism, growth, and even reproduction, and would be an adaptation agreeable with the extreme environment in the hadal trench.
The codon usage of *Halice* sp. MT-2017 was shown in Table S5; it was consistent with the canonical types of invertebrate mitochondrial codes. All of the 13 PCGs were initiated with the ATN, which was the typical start codon for the metazoans. Regarding the stop codons, 12 of the 13 PCGs used TAN as their termination codon, whereas only *cox2* terminated with a single T. This truncated stop codon was believed to be completed by post-transcriptional polyadenylation. The most frequently used codons in *Halice* sp. MT-2017 included TTA (Leu, 9.94%), TTT (Phe, 9.26%), ATT (Ile, 7.14%), and ATA (Met, 5.57%). Moreover, a preference for these four codons was also observed in other non-hadal species (Table S4). In *H. gigas*, apart from the TTT (Phe, 9.04%), TTA (Leu, 7.98%), and ATT (Ile, 7.20%) mentioned above, TTG (4.75%) encoding Leu was also used more frequently, which was not found in other amphipods.

Overall, there was a bias in favor of AT-rich codons in all of the currently studied amphipods, which was still notable for other arthropods.

Nonrandom usage of synonymous codons is a common phenomenon in nature. The effective number of codons (ENC) is a simple metric of the synonymous codon usage bias, ranging from 20, if all the amino acids are encoded by only one codon, to 62, when all the synonymous codons are equally used. For all amphipods in the present study, the ENC values ranged from 34.32 (*H. gigas* in Lysianassoidea) to 52.97 (*B. grewingkii* in Gammaroidea). The ENC of *Halice* sp. MT-2017 was 41.83, indicating that approximately two-thirds of the possible codons were employed effectively in its mitochondrial genome. Although the ENC values were species-specific among all amphipods under study, there were two codon usage patterns when referring to their relationship with the GC3 content at the third synonymous codon position (GC3) (Fig. 5C). The first pattern showed a linear correlation between the ENC values and the GC3s ($R^2 = 0.834$, $p < 0.01$). In this pattern, the synonymous codon usage was associated with the GC content of the mitochondrial DNA and the ENC reflected the species-specific mutational bias around different mitochondrial genomes. Most amphipods under study displayed this pattern. However, some species showed a significant deviation from the linear association, such as *P. gorbeanus* and *H. gigas* in Fig. 5C. The number of the effectively used codons (34.32) in *H. gigas* was lower than that estimated by the regression formula (39.41), indicating a relatively strong bias of codon usage in *H. gigas*. The codon usage bias of *H. gigas* reflected the natural selection for certain codons, through which highly expressed genes exhibited...
amphipods on the heavy strand. rRNA genes were located on the light strand, which was different from the positions of rRNAs observed for other

Individuals of Halice sp. MT-2017 (Fig. 1) for DNA extraction were collected from the Mariana Trench (E142°11.4152’, N11°19.4990’) at a depth of 10,908 m in March 2017. Other stations where Halice sp. MT-2017 could be discovered are listed in Table S1. Sampling of Halice sp. MT-2017 was performed by trapping with bait in a modified sampler installed on the lander (the description of this modified device will be reported in a separate paper). Specimens for mitochondrial genome analysis were frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at −80°C until subsequent use. Total genomic DNA was prepared from the head of Halice sp. MT-2017 using an E.Z.N.A.® Tissue DNA Kit (OMEGA, Wuhan, China) according to the manufacturer’s instructions. The concentration of total isolated DNA was determined with a Qubit Fluorometer (Thermo Scientific, Waltham, MA).

**Table 3.** Values for mutations and dN/dS ratios of 13 mitochondrial tandem genes for amphipods from different taxonomic classification and ecological habitats.

| Superfamily   | Species          | Ecological features                      | dN  | dS  | dN/dS |
|---------------|------------------|------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| Pardalidae    | *Halice* sp. MT-2017 | Mariana Trench at 10908 m in this study   | 0.2155 | 6.5386 | 0.0330 |
| Lysianassidae | *Hirondellea gigas* | Hadal trench, distributed deeper than 7000 m up to over 10,000 m | 0.1225 | 4.5454 | 0.0269 |
| Lysianassidae | *Onisimus manuseni* | Arctic pack ice                          | 0.1579 | 2.9702 | 0.0532 |
| Talitroidea   | *Parhyale haawaiensis* | Shallow sea                              | 0.1192 | 3.4176 | 0.0349 |
| Gammaroidea   | *Bostrychozetes grewingkii* | Estuary of Buguldeyka river, 100–1380 m | 0.1690 | 2.7751 | 0.0609 |
| Caprellidea   | *Caprella scabra* | Shallow sea                              | 0.2748 | 2.6342 | 0.1043 |
| Hadzioida     | *Metacrangonyx longipes* | Subtropical waters                       | 0.1897 | 4.6340 | 0.0409 |
| Allocrinonyctoidea | *Pseudoniphargus gorbeanus* | Subtropical waters                   | 0.1648 | 3.9128 | 0.0516 |
| Callopioida   | *Gondogeneia antarctica* | Interstitial rocky shore in Antarctica   | 0.1709 | 3.0341 | 0.0563 |

**Transfer RNAs and Ribosomal RNAs.** As shown in other metazoans, 22 tRNAs were identified in *Halice* sp. MT-2017 mitochondrial DNA, ranging from 55 bp (trnE [UUC]) to 69 bp (trnK [UUU]) to make 1,401 bp in total (Table 1). Of the 22 tRNAs, 14 genes were encoded on the light strand, whereas the remaining were on the heavy strand. Compared to the tRNAs of other amphipods, the AT content for *Halice* sp. MT-2017 was the highest (80.44%). The negative AT skews (−0.035 and −0.047) of tRNAs for *Halice* sp. MT-2017 and *H. gigas* were opposite to the amphipods with positive AT skew values (Table 2). The reversed strand bias of the AT skew probably resulted from the inversion of the polarity of some tRNA genes or the related CR, a case similar to the reversion of PCGs skewness. The secondary structures of tRNAs in *Halice* sp. MT-2017 were illustrated in Fig. S4. A total of 20 out of 22 tRNAs in *Halice* sp. MT-2017 could be folded into a complete cloverleaf structure, although there were losses of dihydrouridine (DHU) arms in trnS (UCU) and trnV. Disappearance of the DHU domain in trnS (UCN) was common in almost all of the metazoan mitochondrial genomes, and the loss of the DHU arm in trnV could be observed in many other amphipods as well, such as *B. grewingkii*, *E. cyaneus*, *Acanthogammarus victorii*, and *Garajewia cabanissii*. The aberrant structures of tRNA in the mitochondrial genome is not unusual in crustaceans, which can be explained by the selection bias towards a minimal mitochondrial genome or the process of replication slippage.

The AT content of rRNA genes for *Halice* sp. MT-2017 was 79.06% (Table 2), which was the highest value compared to other complete rRNAs of the amphipods under study. The AT and GC skew values were negative (−0.006) and positive (0.340), respectively, which was analogous to that observed for other amphipods (Table 2). The rrrS and rrnL were 735 bp and 1,061 bp in length, respectively, with 1,796 bp in total (Table 1), and the two rRNA genes were located on the light strand, which was different from the positions of rRNAs observed for other amphipods on the heavy strand.

**Evolutionary rate estimation.** The mitochondrial PCGs of amphipods from different taxonomic classifications and ecological environments were used to estimate the non-synonymous/synonymous substitution (dN/dS) ratios under the branch model, assuming the rate consistency along each codon site in the branch. The results showed that all of the evolutionary rates (dN/dS ratios) referring to the whole mitochondrial genome under study were less than one, indicating that the function of the mitochondrial DNA was well-maintained during evolution. Moreover, it was noteworthy that the hadal species (*Halice* sp. MT-2017 and *H. gigas*) demonstrated the smallest evolutionary rate values than did the amphipods in other habitats (Table 3). The slower evolutionary rate of mitochondrial genomes in deep-sea species has also been discovered in isopods, which may be related to the relatively constant environment in the deep sea. To explore the genes making contributions to the overall slower evolutionary rates of these two hadal mitochondrial genomes, the dN/dS ratios were calculated in 13 PCGs separately. The results showed that *nad4* and *cox2* had lower evolutionary rates for both hadal amphipods; *nad6* exhibited a lower evolutionary rate for *Halice* sp. MT-2017, and *cox3*, *nad4l*, and *nad5* showed lower evolutionary rates for *H. gigas* (Table S6). The slower evolutionary rates for these genes indicated that they were under a stronger purification selection, which was critical in removing the disadvantageous mutations and maintaining mitochondrial gene functions.
USA) and the quality of extracted DNA was visualized by electrophoresis on 1% agarose gel stained with SYBR® Safe DNA gel stain (Thermo Scientific, USA).

**Genome sequencing.** A paired-end library with an insert size of 300 bp was prepared with total genomic DNA using the TruSeq DNA Sample Prep Kit (Illumina, USA). The above library was sequenced by an Illumina HiSeq2000 (2 × 150 bp paired-end reads) (Illumina, USA).

**Assembly of the mitochondrial genome and PCR verification.** Adapters and parts with a quality score below 15 were removed from raw reads with a Trimomatic 0.36 tool. The clean reads were assembled using SPAdes 3.11.0 assembler with default parameters. The assembled contigs were blasted against the mitochondrial DNA sequence of *M. longipes* (GenBank Accession No.: AM944817) to extract mitochondrial sequences using the BLAST tool with the sequence of amphipod *M. longipes* (accession no.: AM944817) as a reference. The average coverage depth for the obtained mitochondrial genome sequence was calculated using Bowtie2 2.2.4 with mapping the clean reads to the extracted contigs. Visualization of the alignment file was realized using Table 1.17.08.1796. The accuracy of the assembly of mitochondrial genome was verified by PCR. Primers to amplify the mitochondrial genome are listed in Table S7. The experimental conditions for the PCR were taken from Shen et al.14.

**Genome sequence annotation and analysis.** The mitochondrial genome was preliminarily annotated by the MITOS webserver (http://mitos.bioinf.uni-leipzig.de/index.py)97. Boundaries of the 13 PCGs and 2 tRNAs were determined by alignment with the homologous genes of other amphipods. Transfer RNA genes and their secondaries were identified using the MtFlf88 model in the MITOS pipeline, and further confirmed by the ARWEN 1.2.3.c89 and tRNAscan-SE 1.2190 software programs. The MitoZoa 2.0 database was used to compare the gene order of *Halice* sp. to those of other species42. Gene rearrangement scenarios were deduced by detecting strong interval trees on the CREx webserver (http://pacos.informatik.uni-leipzig.de/crex/).44. The gene order of *Halice* sp. MT-2017 was compared to those of other amphipods or to the putative ancestral pancrustacean ground pattern91. The nucleotide composition was computed by the DNAMAN sequence analysis software program (Lynnon BioSoft, Vaudreuil, Canada). The skew values of AT and GC were calculated according to following formulae: $AT skew = (A−T)/(A+T)$ and $GC skew = (G−C)/(G+C)$, in which $A$, $T$, $G$, and $C$ were the contents of four bases.42. The codon usage was analyzed using the Sequence Manipulation Suite87. The relative synonymous codon usage was calculated with MEGA 6.094. The ENC71 was determined using the INCA 2.1 software program.95 The percentage of each amino acid was calculated by summarizing all of its corresponding codons. A two-tailed t-test was performed using the ‘t.test’ function in R software (3.5.1) to calculate differences and the significant levels (p-value) for amino acid contents, as well as their corresponding property groups, between the deep-sea species (*Halice* sp. MT-2017 and *H. gigas*) and the amphipods from shallower waters (listed in Table 3).

**Substitution rate estimation.** To estimate the $dN/dS$ ratios, standard branch models were performed on the 13 concatenated mitochondrial PCGs and 13 separate PCGs, respectively, with the 'codeml' program in the PAML 4.7 software package. A “free-ratio” model was set and the ambiguous characters and the alignment gaps were removed86.

**Phylogenetic inference.** In the aspect of DNA barcoding, eight available partial *cox1* (cytochrome c oxidase subunit I) sequences of Pardaliscidae in Genbank were used to illustrate the taxonomic placement of the hadal *Halice* sp. MT-2017 specimens collected below 10,000 m. Eight *cox1* sequences from other closely related families were also included in the tree construction. Related accession numbers are listed in Table S8. All of the sequences were aligned using MUSCLE 3.8.3196. Based on the well-aligned 603 nt sequence, Bayesian and maximum likelihood methods were used to construct phylogenetic trees with MrBayes 3.2.6 and RaxmlGUI 1.398 respectively, using the GTR + G + I model as recommended by jModelTest 299. Four independent runs of four MCMC chains were performed for Bayesian analysis. Chains were run for five million generations, and the first 25% of generations were discarded as burn-in. The node stability of the maximum likelihood tree was assessed with 1,000 bootstrap replicates.

Phylogenetic analyses were also performed based on the mitochondrial genomes of *Halice* sp. MT-2017 and those of other 12 amphipods belonging to the seven distinct superfamilies available in GenBank, with four species of isopods used as outgroups. Detailed information of the sequences used was shown in Table S8. Both nucleotide and amino acid sequences of the 13 PCGs were aligned using MUSCLE 3.8.3196 separately. Removing the poorly aligned regions and concatenated conserved sequences were performed using Gblocks 0.91b300 with default stringent parameters. After being trimmed by Gblocks, the remaining nucleotide and amino acid datasets consisted of 9,732 nt and 2,816 aa, respectively. Phylogenetic analysis for each dataset was carried out using the ML method. Regarding the nucleotide sequences, the GTR + G + I model was selected by jModelTest 299. For the amino acid dataset, the MLArt + G + I + F model was selected by ProtTest 3.4101. ML analysis was carried out using RaxmlGUI 1.398 for the nucleotide dataset and PhyML 3.0102 for the amino acid dataset, both of which were conducted with 1,000 bootstrap replicates. Genetic distances between clades were computed using Mega 6.094 with the $p$-distance mode for both *cox1* and 13 concatenated PCGs sequences.

There was a lack of an appropriate fossil record for the calibration of a molecular clock with regard to amphipods; instead, geological events for molecular calibration were used. The formation of the shallow lake, Lake Baikal, occurred approximately 27–35 Mya, and the molecular study revealed that the main Baikal amphipods (Eulimnogammarus vittatus and *B. growingii*) in the present study occurred at a comparable time to the formation of Lake Baikal103. The BEAST v1.8.3105 was implemented to estimate divergence times. An uncorrelated relaxed lognormal clock with the GTR + I + G substitution model was used, and a Yule process was set to the tree prior. A normal distribution was applied to the tree calibration node and the most recent common ancestor of Baikalian
amphipods was set at 30 ± 2 Mya. Following a burn-in of the initial 50% of cycles, divergence times were sampled once every 1,000 generations from 600 million MCMC iterations. The sampled trees and the associated 95% highest posterior density distributions around the estimated node ages were annotated in TreeAnnotator v1.8.4 (BEAST software). Visualization of the tree was realized in FigTree v1.4.3. The effective sample sizes (ESSs) were used for determining the Bayesian statistical significance of each parameter in TRACER v1.5 (ESS > 200) [9].

References

1. Väinölä, R. et al. Global diversity of amphipods (Amphipoda: Crustacea) in freshwater. Hydrobiologia 595(1), 241–255, https://doi.org/10.1007/s10750-007-9200-6 (2008).
2. Arndt, C. E. & Beuchel, F. Life history and population dynamics of the Arctic sympagic amphipods Onisimus nanseni Sars and O. glacialis Sars (Gammariidae: Lysianassidae). Polar Biol. 29(3), 239–248, https://doi.org/10.1007/s00300-005-0454-x (2006).
3. Birstein, J. A. & Vinogradov, M. E. Notes on the family Pardaliscidae (Amphipoda) with the description of a new genus. Crustaceana 3(4), 249–258, https://doi.org/10.1165/546462X00490(1962).
4. Blankenship, L. E., Ayanos, A. A., Cadien, D. B. & Levin, L. A. Vertical zonation patterns of scavenging amphipods from the Hadal zone of the Tonga and Kermadec Trenches. Deep Sea Res., Part I 53(1), 48–61, https://doi.org/10.1016/S0967-0637(05)00096-6 (2006).
5. Brown, V. A., Brooke, A. Fordyce, J. A. & McCracken, G. F. Genetic analysis of populations of the threatened bat Pteropus murinus. Conservation Genetics 12(4), 933–941 (2011).
6. Belyaev, G. M. Genetic and bathymetric patterns of mitochondrial 16S rRNA sequence divergence among deep-sea amphipods. Eurythodes griffii. Mar. Biol. 126(4), 633–643 (1996).
7. Bernal, J. A., Jamieson & A. J. Population genetic structure of two congeneric deep-sea amphipod species from geographically isolated hadal trenches in the Pacific Ocean. Deep Sea Research Part I: Oceanographic Research Papers 59:50–57 (2012).
8. Birstein, J. A. & Stott, L. A. Abrupt deep-sea warming, palaeoceanographic changes and benthic extinctions at the end of the Palaeocene. Nature 353, 225–229, https://doi.org/10.1038/353225a0 (1991).
75. Liu, Y. & Cui, Z. Complete mitochondrial genome of the Chinese spiny lobster *Panulirus stimpsoni* (Crustacea: Decapoda): genome characterization and phylogenetic considerations. *Mol. Biol. Rep.* 38, 403–410 (2011).

76. Shi, H. F., Liu, R. Y., Sha, Z. L. & Ma, J. P. Complete mitochondrial DNA sequence of *Stenopus hispidus* (Crustacea: Decapoda) and a novel rRNA gene cluster. *Mar. Genom.* 6, 7–15 (2012).

77. Masta, S. E. Mitochondrial sequence evolution in spiders: intraspecific variation in rRNAs lacking T'C ARM. *Mol. Biol. Evol.* 17(7), 1091–1100 (2000).

78. Yamazaki, N. et al. Evolution of pulmonate gastropod mitochondrial genomes: comparisons of gene organizations of *Euhadra*, *Cepaea* and *Albinaria* and implications of unusual tRNA secondary structures. *Genetics* 145, 749–758 (1997).

79. Okimoto, R. & Wolstenholme, D. R. A set of tRNAs that lack either the T psi C arm or the dihydrouridine arm: towards a minimal tRNA adaptor. *EMBO Journal* 9(10), 3405–3411 (1990).

80. Yang, Z. PAAML: phylogenetic analysis by maximum likelihood. *Mol. Biol. Evol.* 24(8), 1586–1591 (2007).

81. Shen, Y. et al. The first complete mitogenome of the South China deep-sea giant isopod *Bathyergus sp.* (Crustacea: Isopoda: Cirolanidae) allows insights into the early mitogenetic evolution of isopods. *Ecol. Evol.* 7(6), 1869–1881, https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.2737 (2017).

82. Bölder, A. M., Lohse, M. & Usadel, B. Trimomatic: a flexible trimmer for Illumina sequence data. *Bioinformatics* 30(15), 2114–2120, https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btu170 (2014).

83. Bankevich, A. et al. SPAdes: a new genome assembly algorithm and its applications to single-cell sequencing. *J. Comput. Biol.* 19(5), 455–477, https://doi.org/10.1089/combi.2012.0021 (2012).

84. Altschul, S. F. et al. Gapped BLAST and PSI-BLAST: a new generation of protein database search programs. *Nucleic Acids Res.* 25(17), 3389–3402, https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/25.17.3389 (1997).

85. Langmead, B. & Salzberg, S. L. Fast gapped-read alignment with Bowtie 2. *Nat. Methods* 9(4), 357–359, https://doi.org/10.1038/nmeth.1923 (2012).

86. Milne, I. et al. Using Tablet for visual exploration of second-generation sequencing data. *Briefings Bioinf.* 14(2), 193–202, https://doi.org/10.1093/bib/bbs012 (2012).

87. Bernt, M. et al. MITOS: improved de novo metazoan mitochondrial genome annotation. *Mol. Phylog. Evol.* 69(2), 313–319, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2012.08.023 (2013).

88. Stothard, P. The sequence manipulation suite: JavaScript programs for analyzing and formatting protein and DNA sequences. *Biotechniques* 28(1102), 1104 (2000).

89. Tamura, K., Stecher, G., Peterson, D., Filipski, A. & Kumar, S. MEGA6: molecular evolutionary genetics analysis version 6.0. *Mol. Biol. Evol.* 30(12), 2725–2729, https://doi.org/10.1093/molbev/ms317 (2013).

90. Lowe, T. M. & Eddy, S. R. *tRNAscan-SE*: a program for improved detection of transfer RNA genes in genomic sequence. *Nucleic Acids Res.* 25(5), 955–964 (1997).

91. Boore, J. L., Lavrov, D. V. & Brown, W. M. Gene translocation links insects and crustaceans. *Org. Divers. Evol.* 14(3), 232–235 (2010).

92. Guindon, S., Gascuel, O. & Rannala, B. A simple, fast, and accurate algorithm to estimate large phylogenies by maximum likelihood. *Syst. Biol.* 52(5), 696–704 (2003).

93. Sherbakov, D. Y. et al. On the phylogeny of lake baikal amphipods in the light of mitochondrial and nuclear DNA sequence data. *Crustaceana* 72(8), 911–919, https://doi.org/10.1163/156854009x958316 (1999).

94. Wu Sherbakov, D. Molecular phylogenetic studies on the origin of biodiversity in Lake Baikal. *Trends Ecol. Evol.* 14(3), 92–95, https://doi.org/10.1016/S0169-5347(98)01543-2 (1999).

95. Macdonald Iii, K. S., Yampolsky, L. & Duffy, J. E. Molecular and morphological evolution of the amphipod radiation of Lake Baikal. *Mol. Phylogen. Evol.* 35(2), 323–343, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2005.01.013 (2005).

96. Drummond, A. J., Suchard, M. A., Xie, D. & Rambaut, A. Bayesian phylogenetics with BEAUti and the BEAST 1.7. *Mol. Biol. Evol.* 29(8), 1969–1973, https://doi.org/10.1093/molbev/msu075 (2012).

97. Drummond, A. J. & Rambaut, A. *BEAST*: Bayesian evolutionary analysis by sampling trees. *BMC Evol. Biol.* 7, 1–8 (2007).

**Acknowledgements**

This work was supported by the “Strategic Priority Research Program” of the Chinese Academy of Science (Grant Number XDB06010103), the Key Research and Development Project of Hainan Province (Grant Number ZDYF2017169), the Key R&D Program of China, Grant NO.2018YFC0309804, and the Hundred Talent Program of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (Grant Number SIDSSE-BR-201302). Thanks Dr. Anna Jażdżewska (University of Lodz) and Prof. Greg Rouse (UCSD) for providing more information on the *Halice* sp. MT-2017.

**Author Contributions**

Jun-yuan Li performed the experiments, analyzed the data, wrote the paper, and prepared the figures and tables; Cong Zeng performed the experiments and reviewed drafts of the paper; Guo-yong Yan collected the samples and reviewed drafts of the paper; Li-sheng He conceived and designed the experiments, contributed reagents/materials/analysis tools, supervised the work, and reviewed drafts of the paper.

...
Additional Information
Supplementary information accompanies this paper at https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-019-38735-z.

Competing Interests: The authors declare no competing interests.

Publisher's note: Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.

Open Access This article is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License, which permits use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons license, and indicate if changes were made. The images or other third party material in this article are included in the article’s Creative Commons license, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the article’s Creative Commons license and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder. To view a copy of this license, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/.

© The Author(s) 2019