

1      **Supplemental Methods**

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15

16 **Sample collection**

17 *L. boringii* samples used in this study were collected from the Badagongshan  
18 National Nature Reserve, Hunan Province, China. For genomic sequencing, we  
19 collected muscle and liver from one adult male and flash-froze them in liquid nitrogen.  
20 Genomic DNA was extracted using the DNeasy Blood & Tissue Kit (Qiagen,  
21 Valencia, CA, USA). Muscle and other seven tissues from the same individual  
22 (including skin, brain, testis, liver, heart, kidney, and spleen) were collected for  
23 transcriptomic sequencing. Liver tissue DNA was extracted from another male  
24 individual for construction of Hi-C and HiFi libraries.

25  
26 For whole-genome resequencing data, we sampled and sequenced 20 male and 20  
27 female individuals (Supplemental Dataset 1) and selected two individuals to generate  
28 a full-sib family (including two parents and 147 offspring, Supplemental Dataset 2),  
29 each individual was euthanized in MS222 and dissected under a stereomicroscope.  
30 Muscle tissues were stored at  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$  for sequencing. DNA extraction was carried out  
31 using EasyPure® Genomic DNA Kit (TransGen Biotech, China).

32  
33 All the samples from the wild population were subjected to 15~20 $\times$  coverage and  
34 offspring with  $\sim$ 5 $\times$  coverage. For transcriptomic sequencing, RNA was extracted from  
35 gonads in two sexes at four developmental stages. We further collected both gonad  
36 and somatic tissues (muscle, heart, kidney, liver, lung and brain) in adult frogs  
37 (Supplemental Dataset 6). Each sample included three biological replicates.

38  
39 All experiments involving animals in this study were approved by the Animal Ethics  
40 Committee of the School of Life Sciences, Central China Normal University  
41 (CCNU-IACUC-2022-010). We have complied with all relevant ethical regulations  
42 for animal testing and research.

43  
44 **Genome sequencing, assembly and annotation**

45 A combination of Illumina sequencing, PacBio sequencing, and Hi-C sequencing was  
46 used to generate the *L. boringii* genome assembly. Paired-end libraries with insert  
47 sizes of 300~350 bp were constructed and sequenced on the Illumina NovaSeq 6000  
48 system (Illumina, San Diego, CA, USA). After the removal of sequencing adapters,  
49 contaminant reads (mitochondrial, bacterial, and viral sequences), and low-quality  
50 reads, we finally obtained 329.7 Gb ( $\sim$ 97.5 $\times$  coverage) of clean reads. The  
51 high-quality reads were used for genome size estimation by the *k*-mer method.

52  
53 The DNA extracted from the muscle and liver was used for sequence library  
54 construction using the PacBio Sequel II Platform. For 20 kb template library  
55 preparation, ten micrograms (μg) of *L. boringii* genomic DNA was used, following  
56 the manufacturer's protocol with the BluePippin Size Selection system (Sage Science,  
57 Beverly, MA, USA). The PacBio single molecule real-time (SMRT) library was  
58 prepared using the SMRT bell express template prep Kit 2.0 (Pacific Biosciences,  
59 Menlo Park, CA, USA) and sequenced on the PacBio Sequel II platform. After  
60 filtering low-quality reads, joints, and short reads, we recovered 333.60 Gb of  
61 subreads (~98.6× coverage, Supplemental Table S1), with an average length of  
62 13,213 kb. We then generated a draft assembly with Canu v2.0 (Koren et al. 2017).  
63 The corrected subreads were used for genome assembly using WTDBG v1.1.006  
64 (<https://github.com/ruanjue/wtdbg>). The draft assembly was polished using raw  
65 PacBio sequencing data by arrow, and with Illumina paired-end reads with Pilon  
66 v1.18 (Utturkar et al. 2017). The preliminary assembled genome was de-redundant  
67 using purge\_haplotigs, which identifies and removes redundant heterozygous contigs  
68 based on read depth distribution and sequence similarity. The statistics of the reads  
69 mapping rate were summarized with BWA v0.7.17 (Li and Durbin 2009) and  
70 SAMtools v1.9 (Li et al. 2009). Finally, we assessed genome completeness using the  
71 BUSCO v4.0.1 (Simão et al. 2015) with the metazoan\_odb9 lineage (n = 978).  
72  
73 To further improve the continuity of the assembled genomes and anchor the  
74 assemblies into chromosomes, Hi-C sequencing was performed to order and orient the  
75 contigs, as well as to correct mis-joined sections and merge overlaps. According to  
76 the protocol, nuclear DNA from liver was cross-linked and enzymatically digested  
77 with Hind III restriction enzyme overnight, leaving pairs of distally located but  
78 physically interacting DNA molecules attached to each other. The sticky ends of the  
79 digested fragments were biotinylated and ligated to each other to form chimeric  
80 circles. Biotinylated circles, which are chimeras of physically associated DNA  
81 molecules from the original cross-linking, were enriched, sheared, and sequenced  
82 with the Illumina NovaSeq 6000 system. A total of ~1,126.92 million clean Hi-C  
83 reads pairs (173.6 GB, ~51.4× coverage) were obtained and then mapped to the draft  
84 assembly using BWA v0.7.17 (Li and Durbin 2009) and were filtered to obtain valid  
85 pairs. Then, the contigs were anchored into chromosomes by Hi-C sequencing reads  
86 through the Juicer v1.5 (Durand et al. 2016) and 3D-DNA v180922 (Dudchenko et al.  
87 2017) software workflows. Based on the Hi-C correction, we assembled 1,570 contigs

88 to 13 pseudochromosomes and generated a 3.38 Gb of the *L. boringii* reference  
89 genome, which was used for subsequent analyses.  
90

91 Repeat sequences were identified by two different methods. First, we identified  
92 known TEs using two programs (RepeatMasker and RepeatProteinMask,  
93 <http://www.repeatmasker.org>). Then, we used these two programs to identify TEs by  
94 aligning the genome sequence to a self-generated curated TE protein database  
95 separately. Second, we constructed a *de novo* repeat library using RepeatModeler  
96 (Flynn et al. 2020) and LTR-FINDER (Castelo et al. 2002), which yielded consensus  
97 sequences and classification information for each repeat family. The RepeatMasker  
98 program was then applied to annotate these genome sequences.  
99

100 We integrated three approaches, namely, *de novo* prediction, homology search, and  
101 transcript-based assembly, to annotate protein-coding genes in a repeat-masked  
102 genome. Consensus gene structures were generated by integrating the homolog  
103 protein prediction and *de novo* prediction. *De novo* prediction of protein-coding genes  
104 using the GlimmerHMM v 3.0.4 (Majoros et al. 2004) and AUGUSTUS v 3.3.2  
105 (Stanke et al. 2006). The genes predicted from above methods were integrated into a  
106 non-redundant and more complete gene set using MAKER2 v 2.31.10 (Holt and  
107 Yandell 2011), and the final reliable gene set was obtained using the HiCESAP  
108 pipeline (Gooalgene Co., Ltd., Wuhan, China, <https://www.gooalgene.com/>). To  
109 assign gene functions, the predicted gene sequences were searched against the NR,  
110 GO, KEGG, KOG, Pfam, SwissProt, and TrEMBL databases. Annotation integrity  
111 was estimated by comparison with reference genome annotations and BUSCO v4.0.1  
112 (Simão et al. 2015).  
113

114 **Cytogenetic karyotype analysis of *L. boringii***  
115 Metaphase chromosomes were prepared from the kidneys of female and male *L.*  
116 *boringii* tadpoles following the method described previously (Phimphan and  
117 Aiumsumang 2021), with slight adaptations as follows. We injected colchicine into  
118 the tadpole's abdominal cavity at a dose of 1-5 µg/g for 2-3 hours prior to tissue  
119 collection. Kidney tissues were first washed with Phosphate-buffer saline (PBS) and  
120 then minced, filtered and centrifuged to obtain precipitated kidney cells. We then  
121 resuspended cells with 0.34% KCl solution and dropped them onto a glass slide to let  
122 stand for 30 minutes. Steam treatment was performed on the mixture of fixed solution  
123 (ethanol: acetic acid: water=1:2:3) and anhydrous ethanol for 2 hours and 30 minutes,

124 respectively. We then rinsed the glass slides with another fixed solution (ethanol:  
125 acetic acid=1:2) 3-4 times and air-dried them. Conventional staining was done using  
126 10% Giemsa's solution for 30 minutes.

127

### 128 **Variants calling and primary data filtration**

129 All Illumina raw data were quality-checked, demultiplexed, and filtered by FastQC  
130 v0.11.5 (Andrews 2010) sequencing reads were mapped to the reference genome with  
131 BWA-MEM (Li 2013; Li and Durbin 2009). Individual sam files were converted to  
132 bam files and sorted with SAMtools v1.9 (Li et al. 2009), followed by the removal of  
133 duplicate reads using Picard v2.1 (<http://broadinstitute.github.io/picard/>).  
134 We first applied a hard filter to the raw data by sets using GATK v4.1.3.0 (McKenna  
135 et al. 2010) with the following criteria: QUAL < 30.0; QualByDepth (QD) < 2.0;  
136 FilterStrand (FS) > 60.0; RMS Mapping Quality (MQ) < 20.0; ReadPosRankSum  
137 <-8.0. Secondly, bi-allelic SNPs with minor allele frequency (MAF)  $\geq$  0.01, mean  
138 depth values (min-meanDP)  $\geq$  5, and proportion of missing data < 0.20 were kept  
139 using VCFtools v0.1.15 (Danecek et al. 2011).

140

### 141 **Identification of sex chromosome and the SLR**

142 A GWAS was performed by mixed-model association using EMMA eXpedited  
143 (EMMAX, Kang et al. 2010), using sex as a phenotype. Phased genotypes were  
144 processed with PLINK v1.90b6.10 (Purcell et al. 2007) to generate the input for  
145 EMMAX. The threshold for significance in the GWAS was set with the *p*-value of  
146 2.699e-8 by dividing 0.05 by the number of total SNPs. Sex-linked regions were  
147 inferred based on the presence of SNPs significantly associated with sex by the  
148 GWAS analysis. We used 200 kb overlapping sliding windows with a step size of 50  
149 kb to calculate the *F<sub>ST</sub>* values between male and female populations using VCFtools  
150 v0.1.15 (Danecek et al. 2011). The top 1% was selected as the significance threshold  
151 of *F<sub>ST</sub>*.

152

153 To identify the sex-specific SNPs, we filtered the SNPs and retained those that were  
154 present in at least 75% of all individuals (males and females combined) and a minor  
155 allele frequency (MAF)  $\geq$  0.05 and a heterozygosity threshold < 0.75 by VCFtools  
156 v0.1.15 (Danecek et al. 2011) was used to retain SNPs. Sex-specific SNPs were  
157 defined based on sex differences in allele frequencies (Brelsford et al. 2017). The  
158 screening criteria were defined as SNPs with a allele frequency  $\geq$  0.95 in females and  
159 an allele frequency differential ( $\Delta$ AF) between females and males  $\geq$  0.4 to identify

160 male-specific supporting XY, and vice versa for female-specific SNPs supporting ZW.  
161 Thus, SNPs heterozygous in males and homozygous in females and are regarded as  
162 male-specific SNPs supporting XY sex chromosomes, and vice versa for  
163 female-specific SNPs supporting ZW chromosomes. As a result, we obtained 274,384  
164 male-specific heterozygous SNPs and 240 female-specific heterozygous SNPs.  
165 Variants annotation of the sex-linked SNPs was performed using SnpEff (Cingolani et  
166 al. 2012). We identified 607 missense variants belonging to 395 genes.

167

### 168 **Validation of sex-specific markers by conventional Sanger sequencing**

169 To obtain more accurate sex markers, the sex-linked SNPs obtained from the previous  
170 step were further verified. The 300-bp upstream and downstream sequences of each  
171 male-specific SNPs were used to design primers. We used DNA samples from toes of  
172 24 males and 24 females to further validate these SNPs by Sanger sequencing. After  
173 rounds of screening and validation, we finally generated four pairs of primers  
174 (Supplemental Tables S19, S20) that were heterozygous in all male individuals and  
175 homozygous in all female individuals. These strictly validated sex-linked markers  
176 could be used for accurately separating the genotype sex of *L. boringii* in the sex  
177 reversal identification and transcriptome analysis.

178

### 179 **Haploid genome, *k*-mer analysis and coverage**

180 We supplemented the original PacBio HiFi data using the PacBio Sequel II Platform  
181 and generated additional CCS reads (166.03Gb, ~49.1X coverage). We then  
182 conducted a *de novo* assembly of two haploid genomes. These long and highly  
183 accurate HiFi reads were assembled using Hifiasm  
184 (<https://github.com/chhylp123/hifiasm>) and HiCanu (Nurk et al. 2020). Each haploid  
185 genome was then used for the second round of improvement using the same  
186 procedure of Hi-C assembly described above. We generated two high-quality haploid  
187 genomes of a male *L. boringii*. The length of two haplotype chromosomes was 3.923  
188 Gb and 3.740 Gb for HapA and HapB, respectively. We quantified genome  
189 completeness for each haplotype genome using the BUSCO v4.0.1 (Simão et al. 2015)  
190 with the metazoan\_odb9 lineage (n = 978).

191

192 To identify the Y Chromosome in *L. boringii*, we followed the *k*-mer analysis method  
193 described previously (Morris et al. 2018). In brief, we utilized the HAWK pipeline  
194 (Rahman et al. 2018) to count *k*-mers from paired-end DNA-seq reads. Because of the  
195 extensive sequencing depth and large sample number, comparing all males to all

196 females was computationally prohibitive. Therefore, we divided the individuals into  
197 four groups (five males and five females), identified male and female unique  $k$ -mers  
198 in each group and filtered by more than  $20\times$  normalized coverage. Then, in all four  
199 groups, we filtered female-specific  $k$ -mers (female-mers) and male-specific  $k$ -mers  
200 (Y-mers) shared in at least two groups (Supplemental Fig. S6). All filtered  
201 sex-specific  $k$ -mers were further aligned to haploid genomes by using BWA v0.7.17  
202 (Li and Durbin 2009) to infer the Y-linked haploid genome.

203

204 We also aligned male and female paired-end DNA-seq reads to the XY reference  
205 genome (Lbor.v1), HapA and HapB reference genome by BWA v0.7.17 (Li and  
206 Durbin 2009) and extracted uniquely mapping reads. We then used BEDtools  
207 (Quinlan and Hall 2010) to calculate the coverage (number of times each site was  
208 sequenced divided by the total number of sequenced sites) of each scaffold in each  
209 sample. For each scaffold, we calculated the male-to-female (M:F) FC coverage as  
210  $\log_2(\text{average male coverage}) - \log_2(\text{average female coverage})$ .

211 Additionally, we analyzed synteny between HAChr1 and HBChr1 by pairwise  
212 mapping whole genomes using Minimap2 v2.24 (Li 2018), identified structural  
213 variants with SyRI v1.6 (Goel et al. 2019), and plotted syntenic blocks larger than 20  
214 kb using plotsr v0.5.4 (Goel and Schneeberger 2022).

215

## 216 **High-density genetic map**

217 The male heterozygous and female homozygous genotypes were encoded as  $lm\times ll$ ,  
218 while the male homozygous and female heterozygous genotypes were encoded as  
219  $nn\times np$ .

220 According to the population type, the developed markers were filtered following four  
221 criteria to remove: (1) loci with missing data in parents and those loci where both  
222 parents were homozygous or heterozygous. (2) loci with a missing rate  $>25\%$  or  
223 within a physical distance of 300kb. (3) loci with parental genotypes " $lm\times ll$ " or  
224 " $nn\times np$ " that did not conform to the 1:1 segregation ratio. (4) markers with biased  
225 segregation based on chi-square tests and  $\alpha < 0.05$ . We excluded markers that were  
226 heterozygous in both parents, for this class of marker, in heterozygous offspring, we  
227 would be unable to determine the parent of origin for each allele, rendering them  
228 uninformative for sex-specific linkage mapping.

229 Based on the selected SNP markers, the Lep-MAP3 (Rastas 2017) software was used to  
230 partition linkage groups, with an LOD threshold of 3.0. Subsequently, the maximum  
231 likelihood method was employed to order the linkage groups. Post-processing of the

232 genetic map for each LG was done with the online software MareyMap (Siberchicot  
233 et al. 2017). We built a genetic map by plotting SNP genetic distance against SNP  
234 physical distance for each LG and sex. The integrated genetic map of *L. boringii*  
235 was constructed, consisting of 13 linkage groups (Supplemental Figs. S15, S16). A  
236 final set of 10,884 curated informative SNPs was used to calculate sex-specific local  
237 recombination rates using a locally weighted regression model (LOESS) with a span  
238 parameter of 0.2 in MareyMap online. This method estimated the local recombination  
239 rates (cM/Mb) as the slope of the curve describing the relationship between the  
240 physical (Mb) and genetic (cM) positions.

241

#### 242 **RNA sequencing and gene expression analysis**

243 Based on the results of histological data of gonads, we found four critical stages (G25,  
244 G28, G42, Adult) of development in sex differentiation. (1) Stage G25: the gonads are  
245 undifferentiated, but primordial germ cells begin to proliferate. (2) Stage G28: the sex  
246 of the gonads can be identified based on morphological characteristics in dissection.  
247 (3) Stage G42: tadpoles develop to the peak of metamorphosis, and the gonads are  
248 more mature. (4) Adult frogs: fully sexually mature.

249

250 To investigate biased gene expression, we collected gonad tissues from both sexes at  
251 these critical stages. To compare gene expression between gonad tissues and somatic  
252 tissues, we also collected tissues from muscle, heart, kidney, lung, and brain from  
253 adult frogs. These tissues were collected from each individual and immediately  
254 maintained in RNAlater reagent. All samples were further confirmed for genotypic  
255 sex by Sanger sequencing of sex-linked markers (Supplemental Tables S19, S20).  
256 Due to the inability to determine the sex of the samples during early gonadal  
257 development, this step was necessary to ensure the accuracy of downstream analyses  
258 excluded any sex-reversed individuals.

259

260 For each stage and sex, we prepared three biological replicates for RNA extractions  
261 by using an RNA extraction kit (Omega Bio-Tek) in combination with TRIzol reagent  
262 (Invitrogen). The integrity and concentration of RNA were tested with an Agilent  
263 2100 Bioanalyzer instrument, and the qualified RNA was used for transcriptome  
264 library sequencing. The cDNA sequencing library was constructed separately for each  
265 individual and was sequenced using the Illumina NovaSeq 6000 system. The raw data  
266 obtained were subjected to data quality control and filtering to obtain valid data.  
267 RNA-seq reads were mapped to the reference genome using HISAT2 (Kim et al. 2015),

268 and the reads mapped to each gene were counted using featureCounts v1.6.2 (Liao et  
269 al. 2014). Read counts were normalized using the TPM method.  $TPM = (CDS\ read\ count \times mean\ read\ length \times 10^6) / (CDS\ length \times total\ transcript\ count)$ . Differentially  
270 expressed gene analyses to compare tissue types, developmental stages and sexes  
271 were performed with the edge R package (Robinson et al. 2010). Differentially  
272 expressed genes in male and female individuals were identified using DEseq2 (Love  
273 et al. 2014), with differential  $|FC| \geq 2$  and  $FDR \leq 0.05$ .

275

276 Sex-biased genes were classified into four categories of  $|FC|$  2–4 (low), 4–8 (mid),  
277 and  $> 8$  (high), and expressed as a  $\log_2$  ratio of female-to-male (which has negative  
278 values for male-biased genes and positive values for female-biased genes). As  
279 suggested by Montgomery and Mank (2016), only  $|FC| \geq 2$  will be interpreted  
280 throughout, in order to minimize possible scaling issues due to whole-body sampling  
281 (ovaries are slightly larger than testes, which may potentially lead to bias in calling  
282 sex-biased gene expression). Thus, both conditions  $FDR < 0.05$  and  $|\log_2 FC| \geq 1$  will  
283 have to be met when calling the sex-biased gene.

284

#### 285 **Allele-specific expression (ASE) analysis.**

286 To estimate ASE patterns from RNAseq data, we tailored previously published  
287 pipelines (Quinn et al. 2014). We called SNPs separately for males and females using  
288 SAMtools mpileup v1.9 (Li et al. 2009). We performed initial SNP filtering using  
289 VarScan (Koboldt et al. 2012) with the following parameter: `--min-coverage 2`  
290 `--min-avg-qual 20` `--min-freq-for-homs 0.90` `--p-value 1` `--strand-filter 0`  
291 `--min-var-freq 1e-10`. We filtered SNPs to retain only those located in exonic regions.  
292 To enable comparative analysis between sex chromosomes and autosomes, we  
293 partitioned SNPs into autosomal and sex-chromosomal categories based on  
294 chromosomal positional information. To exclude potential sequencing errors from our  
295 SNP dataset, we applied coverage filtering thresholds by Zimmer et al. 2016.  
296 RNA-Seq data have an intrinsic bias for the estimation of ASE, because those reads  
297 that resemble the reference genome have a higher probability of aligning successfully.  
298 To avoid the potential bias in our ASE estimations from preferential assignment of  
299 reads to the reference allele (Stevenson et al. 2013), we removed clusters of more than  
300 5 SNPs in 100 bp windows.

301

302 If genes have biallelic expression, meaning that alleles from both chromosomes are  
303 expressed at the same level, we expect a probability of around 0.5 of recovering reads

304 from either chromosome. For each SNP in the final filtered dataset, we tested for ASE  
305 by identifying significant deviations from the expected probability of 0.5 using a  
306 two-tailed binomial test ( $p < 0.05$ ). We corrected for multiple testing when running  
307 binomial tests on autosomal SNPs. Additionally, we called SNPs ASE if a minimum  
308 of 70% of the reads stemmed from one of the chromosomes. We called genes ASE if  
309 they had at least one SNP with a consistent ASE pattern across all heterozygous  
310 samples. We tested for significant differences in ASE patterns between the sexes and  
311 between the autosomes and the sex chromosome using Wilcoxon rank sum tests.

312

### 313 **Gene coexpression analysis.**

314 To cluster genes with similar expression patterns across samples, we conducted a  
315 coexpression analysis based on 24 samples using WGCNA v1.63 (Langfelder and  
316 Horvath 2007). We constructed an unsupervised network for transcriptome data using  
317 the function blockwiseModules with default parameters. First, a matrix of Pearson's  
318 correlations between genes was generated based on TPM values across samples. Then  
319 an adjacency matrix representing the connection strength among genes was  
320 constructed by raising the correlation matrix to a soft threshold power to achieve a  
321 scale-free topology fit index of 0.80. Next, the adjacency matrix was used to calculate  
322 the topological overlap matrix (TOM). Genes with similar coexpression patterns  
323 across samples were grouped using hierarchical clustering of dissimilarity among the  
324 topological overlap measures (1 – TOM). Coexpressed modules were determined  
325 using a dynamic tree-cutting algorithm setting with a minimum module size of 30 and  
326 a cut height of 0.998. An eigengene value (the first principal component of the scaled  
327 module expression profiles) was calculated to characterize the overall expression  
328 trend for each module. The intramodular connectivity was measured as kME values  
329 that represent the Pearson's correlation between the expression level of that gene and  
330 the ME. Then the Pearson's correlations between ME values and sampling trait values  
331 were calculated to measure the strength and direction of association between modules  
332 and traits. Fisher's asymptotic  $p$  values were calculated for given correlations using  
333 the corPvalueFisher module. Significant module–trait associations were considered  
334 when  $p < 0.05$ .

335 We integrated the previously identified sex-related genes, genes with missense  
336 mutations, and sex-associated gene sets from WGCNA to jointly confirm key  
337 regulatory pathways involved in sex development. We performed KEGG enrichment  
338 analysis on these gene sets to investigate the biological processes. First, these genes  
339 were aligned to the KEGG database (<http://www.genome.ad.jp/kegg/>). Then, we

340 applied KEGG enrichment using the R package clusterProfiler (Yu et al. 2012), with  
341 the strict cutoff of  $p$  values  $<0.01$  and FDR  $<0.05$ .

342

343

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