

Brick wall excursions

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ALEA 2025

March 17, 2025

Short random walks

- d is the dimension,
- $\nu = \frac{d}{2} - 1$,
- $m = \#$ steps,
- A_k is a random step, $|A_k| = 1$.

Short random walks

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$$d = 2$$

$$m = 3$$

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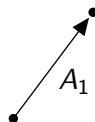
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$$m = 3$$

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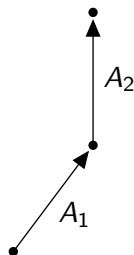
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Short random walks

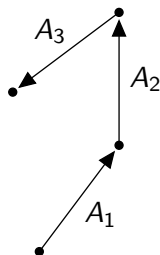
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 $d = 2$ $m = 3$ 

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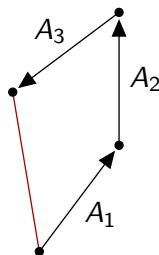
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Short random walks

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- $\nu = \frac{d}{2} - 1$,
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$d = 2$ $m = 3$



Key object: moments $W_m(\nu, n) = \mathbb{E}(|A_1 + \dots + A_m|^n)$

- Fact: for any $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$,
 $W_m(0, 2n)$ and $W_m(1, 2n)$ are integers. Interpretation?

Matrix form for $d = 2$ ($\nu = 0$). Example: $m = 2$

Fact:

$$W_m(0, 2n) = \sum_{\ell=0}^n [M^{m-1}]_{n\ell}, \quad \text{where } M = \left(\binom{i}{j}^2 \right)_{i,j \geq 0}$$

Example: $m = 2$,

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 1 & 4 & 1 & 0 & \cdots \\ 1 & 9 & 9 & 1 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

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Example: $m = 2, \quad W_2(0, 2n) = \binom{2n}{n}$

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 1 & 4 & 1 & 0 & \cdots \\ 1 & 9 & 9 & 1 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow 1 \\ \rightarrow 2 \\ \rightarrow 6 \\ \rightarrow 20 \\ \vdots \end{array}$$

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$W_2(0, 4) = 6 :$

UUDD
UDUD
UDDU
DUUD
DUDU
DDUU

Matrix form for $d = 2$ ($\nu = 0$). Example: $m = 3$

Example: $m = 3$

$$M^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 6 & 8 & 1 & 0 & \cdots \\ 20 & 46 & 10 & 1 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

Matrix form for $d = 2$ ($\nu = 0$). Example: $m = 3$

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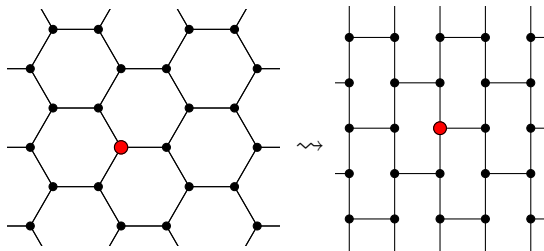
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Matrix form for $d = 2$ ($\nu = 0$). Example: $m = 3$

Example: $m = 3$

$W_3(0, 4) = 15$:

$$M^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 6 & 8 & 1 & 0 & \cdots \\ 20 & 46 & 10 & 1 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} \rightarrow 1 \\ \rightarrow 3 \\ \rightarrow 15 \\ \rightarrow 77 \\ \vdots \end{matrix}$$



RLRL
 RLUD
 RLDU
 RUDL
 RDUL
 ULRD
 UDRL
 DLRU
 DURL
 UUDD
 UDUD
 UDDU
 DUUD
 DUDU
 DDUU

Interpretation for $d = 2$ ($\nu = 0$)

Let $A_k \in \mathbb{C}$, $|A_k| = 1$ ($k = 1, \dots, m$).

$$W_m(0, 2n) = \mathbb{E} |A_1 + \dots + A_m|^{2n}$$

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$$W_m(0, 2n) = \mathbb{E} |A_1 + \dots + A_m|^{2n}$$

$$\underline{(1)} \quad \mathbb{E} \left((A_1 + \dots + A_m) (A_1^{-1} + \dots + A_m^{-1}) \right)^n$$

$$\boxed{1} \quad 1 = |A_k|^2 = A_k \bar{A}_k \quad \Rightarrow \quad A_k^{-1} = \bar{A}_k$$

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$$\stackrel{(1)}{=} \mathbb{E} \left((A_1 + \dots + A_m) (A_1^{-1} + \dots + A_m^{-1}) \right)^n$$

$$\stackrel{(2)}{=} [A_1^0 \dots A_m^0] \left((A_1 + \dots + A_m) (A_1^{-1} + \dots + A_m^{-1}) \right)^n$$

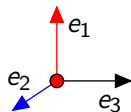
$$\boxed{1} \quad 1 = |A_k|^2 = A_k \bar{A}_k \quad \Rightarrow \quad A_k^{-1} = \bar{A}_k$$

$$\boxed{2} \quad \mathbb{E} (A_1 A_2^{-1} A_3 A_1^{-1} A_3 A_2^{-1}) = \mathbb{E} (A_2^{-2} A_3^2) = \mathbb{E} (A_2^{-2}) \cdot \mathbb{E} (A_3^2) = 0$$

Interpretation for $d = 2$ ($\nu = 0$) and $m = 3$

$$\mathbb{E} \left(\left(\begin{array}{ccc} A_1 & + & A_2 & + & A_3 \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{ccc} A_1^{-1} & + & A_2^{-1} & + & A_3^{-1} \end{array} \right) \right)^n$$

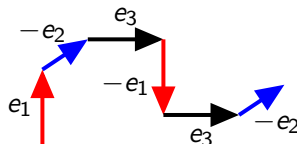
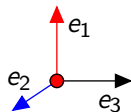
$$\begin{array}{cccccc} \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ e_1 & & e_2 & & e_3 & & -e_1 & & -e_2 & & -e_3 \end{array}$$



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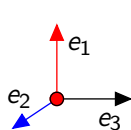


$$A_1 A_2^{-1} A_3 A_1^{-1} A_3 A_2^{-1}$$

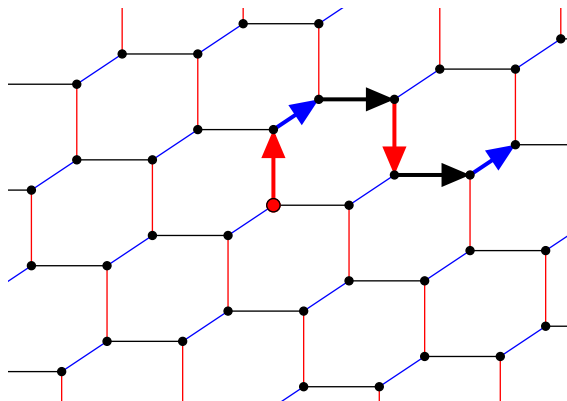
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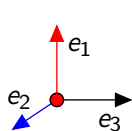
terms
↓
paths



Interpretation for $d = 2$ ($\nu = 0$) and $m = 3$

$$\mathbb{E} \left(\left(\begin{array}{ccc} A_1 & + & A_2 & + & A_3 \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{ccc} A_1^{-1} & + & A_2^{-1} & + & A_3^{-1} \end{array} \right) \right)^n$$

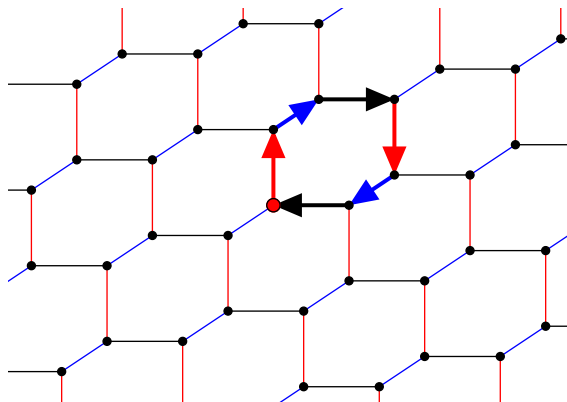
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constant
term



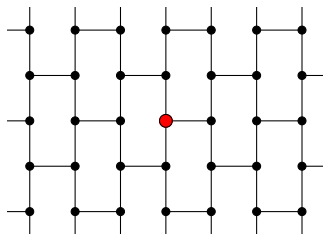
closed
paths



Matrix form revisited for $d = 2$ ($\nu = 0$) and $m = 3$

Paths \leftrightarrow words on $\{U, D, R, L\}$:

- R on odd positions,
- L on even positions.



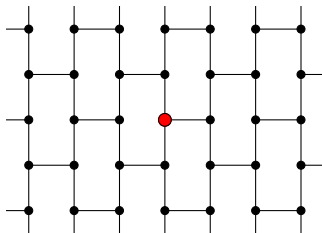
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Let

- $2n = \# \text{ steps}$,
- $k = \#U = \#D$,
- $n - k = \#R = \#L$.



Then
$$W_3(0, 2n) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{n-k} \binom{n}{n-k} \binom{2k}{k}$$

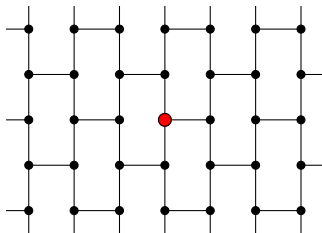
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 \text{Then} \quad W_3(0, 2n) &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{n-k} \binom{n}{n-k} \binom{2k}{k} \\
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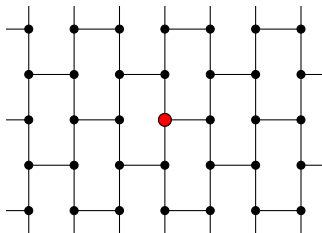
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 &= \sum_{k, \ell=0}^n M_{nk} M_{k\ell} = \sum_{\ell=0}^n [M^2]_{n\ell}
 \end{aligned}$$

General construction for $d = 2$ ($\nu = 0$)

Paths \leftrightarrow words on $\{U, D, R_1, L_1, \dots, R_{m-2}, L_{m-2}\}$:

- R_s on odd positions,
- L_s on even positions.

Let

- $2n = \# \text{ steps}$,
- $k_0 = \#U = \#D$,
- $k_s = \#R_s = \#L_s$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 W_m(0, 2n) &= \sum_{k_0 + \dots + k_{m-2} = n} \binom{n}{k_{m-2}}^2 \binom{n-k_{m-2}}{k_{m-3}}^2 \dots \binom{k_1+k_0}{k_0}^2 \binom{2k_0}{k_0} \\
 &= \sum_{k_0 + \dots + k_{m-2} = n} \binom{k_0 + \dots + k_{m-2}}{k_0 + \dots + k_{m-3}}^2 \dots \binom{k_0 + k_1}{k_0}^2 \sum_{\ell=0}^n \binom{k_0}{\ell}^2 \\
 &= \sum_{\ell, r_1, \dots, r_{m-2}=0}^n M_{nr_{m-2}} \dots M_{r_2 r_1} M_{r_1 \ell} = \sum_{\ell=0}^n [M^{m-1}]_{n\ell}
 \end{aligned}$$

Summary for $d = 2$ ($\nu = 0$)

- We consider **moments** $W_m(0, 2n) = \mathbb{E}\left(|A_1 + \dots + A_m|^n\right)$,
where $A_k \in \mathbb{C}$, $|A_k| = 1$ ($k = 1, \dots, m$).
- $W_m(0, 2n)$ is the constant term in
 $\left((A_1 + \dots + A_m)(A_1^{-1} + \dots + A_m^{-1})\right)^n$.
- Thus, $W_m(0, 2n)$ **can be interpreted as** the number of
closed paths of length $2n$ on a specific **m -dimensional lattice**.
- In particular,

$$W_m(0, 2n) = \sum_{\ell=0}^n [M^{m-1}]_{n\ell}, \quad \text{where } M = \left(\binom{i}{j}^2 \right)_{i,j \geq 0}$$

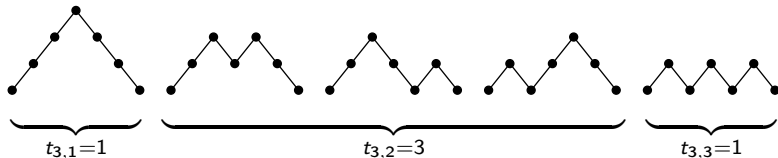
Matrix form for $d = 4$ ($\nu = 1$). Example: $m = 2$

Fact:

$$W_m(1, 2n) = \sum_{\ell=0}^n [N^{m-1}]_{n\ell}, \quad \text{where } N = \left(t_{i+1, j+1} \right)_{i, j \geq 0}$$

Here, $t_{i,j}$ are the **Narayana numbers**, i.e.

$$t_{i,j} = \#\{\text{Dyck paths of length } i \text{ with } j \text{ peaks}\}$$



Matrix form for $d = 4$ ($\nu = 1$). Example: $m = 2$

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Example: $m = 2,$

$$N = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 0 & \cdots \\ 1 & 6 & 6 & 1 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

Matrix form for $d = 4$ ($\nu = 1$). Example: $m = 2$

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Example: $m = 2, \quad W_2(1, 2n) = \frac{1}{n+2} \binom{2n+2}{n+1}$

$$N = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 0 & \cdots \\ 1 & 6 & 6 & 1 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} \rightarrow 1 \\ \rightarrow 2 \\ \rightarrow 5 \\ \rightarrow 14 \\ \vdots \end{matrix}$$

Matrix form for $d = 4$ ($\nu = 1$). Example: $m = 2$


Fact:

$$W_m(1, 2n) = \sum_{\ell=0}^n [N^{m-1}]_{n\ell}, \quad \text{where } N = \left(t_{i+1, j+1} \right)_{i, j \geq 0}$$

Example: $m = 2, \quad W_2(1, 2n) = \frac{1}{n+2} \binom{2n+2}{n+1}$

$$N = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ \color{blue}{1} & \color{blue}{3} & \color{blue}{1} & \color{blue}{0} & \cdots \\ 1 & 6 & 6 & 1 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow 1 \\ \rightarrow 2 \\ \rightarrow \color{blue}{5} \\ \rightarrow 14 \\ \vdots \end{array}$$

$W_2(1, 4) = 5 :$



UUUDDD
UUDUDD
UUDDUD
UDUUDD
UDUDUD

Bijjective lemma

Consider words on $\{R, L, O\}$ such that:

- R on odd positions,
- L on even positions,
- $\#R = \#L$,
- in each prefix, $\#R \geq \#L$.

Then the number D_n of such words of size $2n$ is

$$D_n = \sum_{k=0}^n t_{n+1, k+1},$$

where

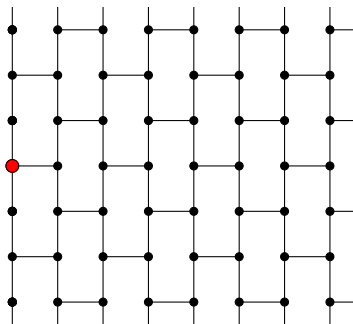
- $2k = \#O$,
- $n - k = \#R = \#L$.

Applications: closed path counting

Let us count closed paths with $2n$ steps.

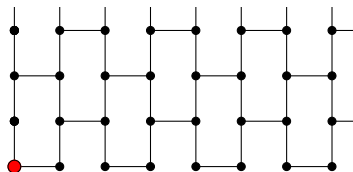
Half-plane:

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{2k}{k} t_{n+1, k+1}$$



Quarter-plane:

$$\sum_{k=0}^n C_k t_{n+1, k+1}$$



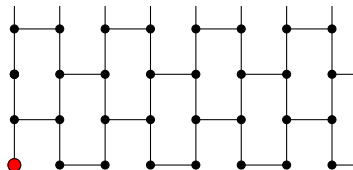
Hint: apply lemma with

$$O \rightsquigarrow U, D$$

Matrix form revisited for $d = 4$ ($\nu = 1$) and $m = 3$

Shifted quarter-plane:

- $2n = \#$ steps,
- R on **even** positions,
- L on **odd** positions,
- in each prefix, $\#U \geq \#D$,
- in each prefix, $\#R \geq \#L$.



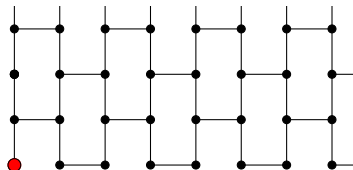
Then $\#\{\text{closed paths}\} = \sum_{k=0}^n C_{k+1} t_{n+1, k+1}$

(here, $k = \#U = \#D$ and $n - k = \#R = \#L$)

Matrix form revisited for $d = 4$ ($\nu = 1$) and $m = 3$

Shifted quarter-plane:

- $2n = \#$ steps,
- R on **even** positions,
- L on **odd** positions,
- in each prefix, $\#U \geq \#D$,
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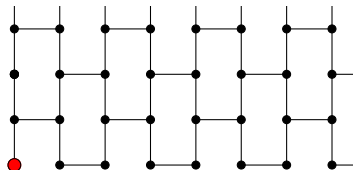
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Then } \#\{\text{closed paths}\} &= \sum_{k=0}^n C_{k+1} t_{n+1, k+1} \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^n t_{n+1, k+1} \sum_{\ell=0}^k t_{k+1, \ell+1}
 \end{aligned}$$

(here, $k = \#U = \#D$ and $n - k = \#R = \#L$)

Matrix form revisited for $d = 4$ ($\nu = 1$) and $m = 3$

Shifted quarter-plane:

- $2n = \#$ steps,
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$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Then } \#\{\text{closed paths}\} &= \sum_{k=0}^n C_{k+1} t_{n+1, k+1} \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^n t_{n+1, k+1} \sum_{\ell=0}^k t_{k+1, \ell+1} \\
 &= \sum_{k, \ell=0}^n N_{nk} N_{k\ell} = \sum_{\ell=0}^n [N^2]_{n\ell}
 \end{aligned}$$

(here, $k = \#U = \#D$ and $n - k = \#R = \#L$)

General construction for $d = 4$ ($\nu = 1$)

Paths \leftrightarrow words on $\{U, D, R_1, L_1, \dots, R_{m-2}, L_{m-2}\}$:

- R_s on even positions (after removing all R_t and L_t , $t > s$),
- L_s on odd positions (after removing all R_t and L_t , $t > s$),
- in each prefix, $\#U \geq \#D$ and $\#R_s \geq \#L_s$.

Let

- $2n = \#$ steps,
- $k_0 = \#U = \#D$,
- $k_s = \#R_s = \#L_s$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 W_4(0, 2n) &= \sum_{k_0+k_1+k_2=n} t_{n+1, k_1+k_0+1} \cdot t_{n-k_2+1, k_0+1} \cdot C_{k_0+1} \\
 &= \sum_{k_0+k_1+k_2=n} t_{n+1, k_1+k_0+1} \cdot t_{k_1+k_0+1, k_0+1} \sum_{\ell=0}^n t_{k_0+1, \ell+1} \\
 &= \sum_{\ell, r_1, r_2=0}^n N_{nr_2} N_{r_2 r_1} N_{r_1 \ell} = \sum_{\ell=0}^n [N^3]_{n\ell}
 \end{aligned}$$

Summary for $d = 4$ ($\nu = 1$)

- We consider **moments** $W_m(1, 2n) = \mathbb{E}(|A_1 + \dots + A_m|^n)$,
where $A_k \in \mathbb{R}^4$, $|A_k| = 1$ ($k = 1, \dots, m$).

- It is known that,

$$W_m(1, 2n) = \sum_{\ell=0}^n [N^{m-1}]_{n\ell}, \quad \text{where } N = (t_{i+1,j+1})_{i,j \geq 0}$$

- Thus, $W_m(1, 2n)$ **can be interpreted as** the number of **closed paths** of length $2n$ on a specific **m -dimensional lattice**.
- Question. Can we obtain the above result directly?
(one could expect the use of **quaternions**)

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Thank you for your attention!

Literature



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