DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER GRAPHICS AND INTERACTION

## TRIANGULATIONS

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Based on [Berg] and [Mount]

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## Talk overview

- Polygon triangulation
- Monotone polygon triangulation
- Monotonization of non-monotone polygon


Delaunay triangulation (DT) of points

- Input: set of 2D points
- Properties

- Incremental Algorithm
- Relation of DT in 2D and lower envelope (CH) in 3D and relation of VD in 2D to upper envelope in 3D


## Polygon triangulation problem

- Triangulation (in general)
= subdividing a spatial domain into simplices
- Application
- decomposition of complex shapes into simpler shapes
- art gallery problem (how many cameras and where)
- We will discuss
- Triangulation of a simple polygon
- without demand on triangle shapes
- Complexity of polygon triangulation
- $\mathrm{O}(n)$ alg. exists [Chazelle91], but it is too complicated

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## Terminology

Simple polygon

$=$ region enclosed by a closed polygonal chain that does not intersect itself

Visible points

$=$ two points on the boundary are visible if the interior of the line segment joining them lies entirely in the interior of the polygon

## Diagonal

= line segment joining any pair of visible vertices


## Terminology

- A polygonal chain C is strictly monotone with respect to line $L$, if any line orthogonal to $L$ intersects C in at most one point
- A chain $C$ is monotone with respect to line $L$, if any line orthogonal to $L$ intersects $C$ in at most one connected component (point, line segment,...)
- Polygon $P$ is monotone with respect to line $L$, if its boundary (bnd(P), $\partial \mathrm{P}$ ) can be split into two chains, each of which is monotone with respect to $L$


## Terminology

- Horizontally monotone polygon
$=$ monotone with respect to $x$-axis
- Can be tested in $O(n)$
- Find leftmost and rightmost point in $O(n)$
- Split boundary to upper and lower chain
- Walk left to right, verifying that x-coord are nondecreasing

x-monotone polygon


## Terminology

- Every simple polygon can be triangulated
- Simple polygon with $n$ vertices consists of
- exactly n-2 triangles
- exactly n-3 diagonals
- Each diagonal is added once => O(n) sweep line algorithm exist

Proof by induction

$\mathrm{n}=3$ => 0 diagonal

$\mathrm{n}=4$ => 1 diagonal

$\mathrm{n}:=\mathrm{n}+1 \Rightarrow \mathrm{n}+1-3$ diagonals
$n+1=7=>4$ diagonals)

## Simple polygon triangulation

- Simple polygon can be triangulated in 2 steps:

1. Partition the polygon into $x$-monotone pieces
2. Triangulate all monotone pieces
(we will discuss the steps in the reversed order)

## 2. Triangulation of the monotone polygon

- Sweep left to right - in O(n) time
- Triangulate everything you can by adding diagonals between visible points
- Remove triangulated region from further consideration - mark as DONE



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## Triangulation of the monotone polygon



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## Main invariant of the untriangulated region

## Main invariant

- Let $v_{i}$ be the vertex being just processed
- The untriangulated region left of $v_{i}$ consists of two x-monotone chains (upper and lower)
- Each chain has at least one edge
- If it has more than one edge
- these edges form a reflex chain
= sequence of vertices with interior angle $\geq 180^{\circ}$


Initial invariant

- the other chain consist of single edge $u v_{i}$
- Left vertex of the last added diagonal is $u$
- Vertices between $u$ and $v_{i}$ are waiting in the stack


## Triangulation cases

- Case 1: $v_{i}$ lies on the opposite chain
- Add diagonals from next( $u$ ) to $\mathrm{v}_{\mathrm{i}-1}$ (empty the stack)
- Set $u=v_{i-1}$. Last diagonal (invariant) is $v_{i} v_{i-1}$
- Case 2: $v_{i}$ is on the same chain as $v_{i-1}$
a) walk back, adding diagonals joining $v_{i}$ to prior vertices until the angle becomes $>180^{\circ}$ or $u$ is reached - pop)


Case 1


Case 2a

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b) push to stack

Case 2b
[Mount]

## 1. Polygon subdivision into monotone pieces

- X-monotonicity breaks the polygon in vertices with edges directed both left or both right

- The monotone polygons parts are separated by the splitting diagonals (joining vertex and helper)


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## Data structures for subdivision

- Events
- Endpoints of edges, known from the beginning
- Can be stored in sorted list - no priority queue
- Sweep status
- List of edges intersecting sweep line (top to bottom)
- Stored in O(log n) time dictionary (like balanced tree)
- Event processing
- Six event types based on local structure of edges around vertex $v$


## Helper - definition

helper( $e_{a}$ )
$=$ the rightmost vertically visible processed vertex $u$ below edge $e_{a}$ on polygonal chain between edges $e_{a} \& e_{b}$ is visible to every point along the sweep line between $e_{a} \& e_{b}$


## Helper

## helper( $e_{a}$ )

is defined only for edges intersected by the sweep line


## Six event types of vertex $v$

## 1. Split vertex

- Find edge e above $v$, connect $v$ with helper(e) by diagonal

- Add 2 new edges incident to $v$ into SL status
- Set new helper(e) $=$ helper(lower edge of these two) $=v$

2. Merge vertex

- Find two edges incident with $v$ in SL status
- Delete both from SL status
- Let $e$ is edge immediately above $v$
- Make helper $(\mathrm{e})=v$

(Interior angle $>180^{\circ}$ for both - split \& merge vertices)



## Six event types of vertex $v$

## 3. Start vertex

- Both incident edges lie right from $v$
- But interior angle < $180^{\circ}$
- Insert both edges to SL status
- Set helper(upper edge) $=v$

4. End vertex

- Both incident edges lie left from $v$
- But interior angle <180 ${ }^{\circ}$
- Delete both edges from SL status

- No helper set - we are out of the polygon


## Six event types of vertex $v$

## 5. Upper chain-vertex

- one side is to the left, one side to the right,
 interior is below
- replace the left edge with the right edge in SL status
- Make $v$ helper of the new (upper) edge

6. Lower chain-vertex

- one side is to the left, one side to the right, interior is above
- replace the left edge with the right edge in SL status
Make $v$ helper of the edge e above



## Polygon subdivision complexity

- Simple polygon with $n$ vertices can be partitioned into x-monotone polygons in
$-\mathrm{O}(n \log n)$ time ( n steps of $\mathrm{SL}, \log \mathrm{n}$ search each)
- O(n) storage
- Complete simple polygon triangulation
- O( $n \log n)$ time for partitioning into monotone polygons
- O(n) time for triangulation
- O(n) storage


## Dual graph G for a Voronoi diagram

Graph G: Node for each Voronoi-diagram cell $V(p) \sim$ VD site $p$ Arc connects neighboring cells (arc for every voronoi edge)
= straight line embedding of $G$ (straight-line dual of Voronoi diagram)

- Node for cell $V(p)$ is site $p$
- Arc (DG edge) connecting cells
$V(p)$ and $V(q)$
is the segment $p q$
VD cell $\mathrm{V}(p)$
site (point) $p$
= DG node

VD vertex

## Delaunay graph and Delaunay triangulation

－Delaunay graph $D G(P)$ has convex polygonal faces （with number of vertices $\geq 3$ ，equal to the degree of Voronoi vertex）
－Delaunay triangulation DT（P） ＝Delaunay graph for sites in general position
－No four sites on a circle

－Faces are triangles（Voronoi vertices have degree＝3）
－DT is unique（DG not！Can be triangulated differently）
$D G(P)$ sites not in general position
－Triangulate larger faces－such triangulation is not
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DCGI

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## Delaunay triangulation properties

## Circumcircle property

- The circumcircle of any triangle in DT is empty (no sites) Proof: It's center is the Voronoi vertex
- Three points $a, b, c$ are vertices of the same face of $D G(P)$ iff circle through $a, b, c$ contains no point of $P$ in its interior Empty circle property and legal edge
- Two points $a, b$ form an edge of $D G(P)$ - it is a legal edge iff $\exists$ closed disc with $a, b$ on its boundary that contains no other point of $P$ in its interior
... disc minimal diameter $=\operatorname{dist}(\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b})$
Closest pair property
- The closest pair of points in $P$ are neighbors in $D T(P)$


## Delaunay triangulation properties

- DT edges do not intersect
- Triangulation $T$ is legal, iff $T$ is a Delaunay triangulation (i.e., if it does not contain illegal edges)
- Edge that was legal before may become illegal if one of the triangles incident to it changes
- In convex quadrilateral abcd (abcd do not lie on common circle) exactly one of $a c, b d$
is an illegal edge
and the other edge is legal
principle of edge flip operation



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## Edge flip operation

## Edge flip

= a local operation, that increases the angle vector

- Given two adjacent triangles $\Delta a b c$ and $\Delta c d a$ such that their union forms a convex quadrilateral, the edge flip operation replaces the diagonal $a c$ with $b d$.



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## Delaunay triangulation

- Let $T$ be a triangulation with $m$ triangles (and $3 m$ angles)
- Angle-vector
$=$ non-decreasing ordered sequence $\left(\alpha_{1}, \alpha_{2}, \ldots, \alpha_{3 m}\right)$ inner angles of triangles, $\alpha_{i} \leq \alpha_{j}$, for $\mathrm{i}<\mathrm{j}$
- In the plane, Delaunay triangulation has the lexicographically largest angle sequence
- It maximizes the minimal angle (the first angle in angle-vector)
- It maximizes the second minimal angle, ...
- It maximizes all angles
- It is an angle sequence optimal triangulation


## Delaunay triangulation

- It maximizes the minimal angle
- The smallest angle in the DT is at least as large as the smallest angle in any other triangulation.
- However, the Delaunay triangulation
- does not necessarily minimize the maximum angle.[4]
- does not necessarily minimize the length of the edges.


## Thales's theorem ${ }_{(6245468 \mathrm{Bc})}$

## Respective Central Angle Theorem



Let $C=$ circle,

- $\quad l=$ line intersecting $C$ in points a, $b$
- $p, q, r, s=$ points on the same side of $l$
$p, q$ on $C, r$ is in, $s$ is out
Then for the angles holds:
$\Varangle a r b>\Varangle a p b=\Varangle a q b>\Varangle a s b$
http://www.mathopenref.colo/arccèntralañgletheörem.html


## Edge flip of illegal edge and angle vector

- The minimum angle increases after the edge flip


$$
|b d|<|a c| \quad \varphi_{\mathrm{ab}}>\theta_{\mathrm{ab}} \quad \varphi_{\mathrm{bc}}>\theta_{\mathrm{bc}} \quad \varphi_{\mathrm{cd}}>\theta_{\mathrm{cd}} \quad \varphi_{\mathrm{da}}>\theta_{\mathrm{da}}
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=> After limited number of edge flips

- Terminate with lexicographically maximum triangulation



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## Incremental algorithm principle

1. Create a large triangle containing all points (to avoid problems with unbounded cells)

- must be larger than the largest circle through 3 points
- will be discarded at the end

2. Insert the points in random order

- Find triangle with inserted point $p$
- Add edges to its vertices (these new edges are correct)
- Check correctness of the old edges (triangles) "around $p$ " and legalize (flip) potentially illegal edges

3. Discard the large triangle and incident edges

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## Incremental algorithm in detail

DelaunayTriangulation $(P)$ Input: $\quad$ Set $P$ of $n$ points in the plane Output: A Delaunay triangulation $T$ of $P$

1. Let $p_{-2}, p_{-1}, p_{0}$ form a triangle large enough to contain $P$
2. Initialize $T$ as the triangulation consisting a single triangle $p_{-2} p_{-1} p_{0}$
3. Compute random permutation $p_{1}, p_{2}, \ldots, p_{n}$ of $P \backslash\left\{p_{0}\right\}$
4. for $r=1$ to $n$ do
5. $\quad T=\operatorname{Insert}\left(p_{r}, T\right)$
6. Discard $\mathrm{p}_{-1}, \mathrm{p}_{-2}$ with all incident edges from $T$
7. return $T$

## Incremental algorithm - insertion of a point

Insert $(p, T)$
Input: $\quad$ Point $p$ being inserted into triangulation $T$
Output: Correct Delaunay triangulation after insertion of $p$

1. Find a triangle $a b c \in T$ containing $p$
2. if $p$ lies in the interior of $a b c$ then
3. Insert edges $p a, p b, p c$ into triangulation $T$ (splitting abc into 3 triangles pab, pbc, pca )
4. LegalizeEdge $(p, a b, T)$
5. LegalizeEdge $(p, b c, T)$
6. LegalizeEdge $(p, c a, T)$

7. else // $p$ lies on the edge of $a b c$, say $a b$, point $d$ is right from edge $a b$
8. Remove $a b$ and insert edges $p a, p b, p c, p d$ into triangulation $T$ (splitting abc and abd into 4 triangles pad, pdb, pbc, pca )
9. LegalizeEdge $(p, a b, T)$
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9. LegalizeEdge $(p, b c, T)$
10. LegalizeEdge $(p, c d, T)$
11. LegalizeEdge $(p, d a, T)$
12. return $T$


## Incremental algorithm - edge legalization

LegalizeEdge( $p, a b, T$ )
Input: Edge $a b$ being checked after insertion of point $p$ to triangulation $T$
Output: Delaunay triangulation of $p \cup T$

1. if( $a b$ is edge on the exterior face ) return
2. let $d$ be the vertex to the right of edge $a b$
3. if( $\operatorname{inCircle}(p, a, b, d)) / / d$ is in the circle around $p a b=>d$ is illegal
4. Flip edge $a b$ for $p d$
5. LegalizeEdge ( $p$, ad, $T$ )
6. LegalizeEdge $(p, d b, T)$


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## Correctness of edge flip of illegal edge

- Assume point $p$ is in $C$ (it violates DT criteria for $a d b$ )
- $\quad a d b$ was a triangle of DT => $C$ was an empty circle
- Create circle $C^{\prime}$ trough point $p, C^{\prime}$ is inscribed to $C, C^{\prime} \subset C$ $=>C^{\prime}$ is also an empty circle $(a, b \notin C)$ => new edge $p d$ is a Delaunay edge



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## DT- point insert and mesh legalization



Every new edge created due to insertion of $p$ will be incident to $p$

## Delaunay triangulation - other point insert

## insert p <br> check pab



## Delaunay triangulation - other point insert

## insert p <br> check pab



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## Correctness of the algorithm

- Every new edge (created due to insertion of $p$ )
- is incident to $p$
- must be legal
=> no need to test them
- Edge can only become illegal if one of its incident triangle changes
- Algorithm tests any edge that may become illegal
=> the algorithm is correct
- Every edge flip makes the angle-vector larger => algorithm can never get into infinite loop


## Point location data structure

- For finding a triangle $a b c \in T$ containing $p$
- Leaves for active (current) triangles
- Internal nodes for destroyed triangles
- Links to new triangles
- Search p: start in root (initial triangle)
- In each inner node of $T$ :
- Check all children (max three)
- Descend to child containing $p$


## Point location data structure

Simplified

- it should also contain the root node $\Delta_{1}$

$\Delta_{3}$



## Point location data structure



## Point location data structure



## Point location data structure



## InCircle test

- a,b,c are counterclockwise in the plane
- Test, if $d$ lies to the left of the oriented circle through $a, b, c$



## Creation of the initial triangle

Idea: For given points set $P$ :

- Initial triangle $p_{-2} P_{-1} p_{0}$
- Must contain all points of $P$
- Must not be (none of its points) in any circle defined by non-collinear points of $P$
- $I_{-2}=$ horizontal line above $P$

- $I_{-1}=$ horizontal line below $P$
- $p_{-2}=$ lies on $I_{-2}$ as far left that $p_{-2}$ lies outside every circle
- $p_{-1}=$ lies on $I_{-1}$ as far right that $p_{-1}$ lies outside every circle defined by 3 non-collinear points of $P$

Symbolical tests with this triangle $=>p_{-1}^{+}$and $p_{-2}$ always out

## Complexity of incremental DT algorithm

- Delaunay triangulation of a set $P$ in the plane can be computed in
$-\mathrm{O}(\mathrm{n} \log \mathrm{n})$ expected time
- using $O(n)$ storage
- For details see [Berg, Section 9.4] Idea
- expected number of created triangles is $9 n+1$
- expected search $O(\log n)$ in the search structure done n times for n inserted points


## Delaunay triangulations and Convex hulls

- Delaunay triangulation in $R^{d}$ can be computed as part of the convex hull in $R^{d+1}$ (lower CH )
- 2D: Connection is the paraboloid: $z=x^{2}+y^{2}$


Project onto paraboloid.


Compute convex hull.


Project hull faces back to plane.

## Vertical projection of points to paraboloid

- Vertical projection of 2D point to paraboloid in 3D

$$
(x, y) \rightarrow\left(x, y, x^{2}+y^{2}\right)
$$

- Lower convex hull
$=$ portion of CH visible from $Z=-\infty$ (forms DT)



## Relation between CH and DT

## - Delaunay condition (2D)

Points $p, q, r \in S$ form a Delaunay triangle iff the circumcircle of $p, q, r$ is empty (contains no point)

- Convex hull condition (3D)

Points $p^{\prime}, q^{\prime}, r^{\prime} \in S^{\prime}$ form a face of $C H\left(S^{\prime}\right)$ iff the plane passing through $p^{\prime}, q^{\prime}, r^{\prime}$ is supporting $S^{\prime}$

- all other points lie to one side of the plane
- plane passing through $p^{\prime}, q^{\prime}, r^{\prime}$ is supporting hyperplane of the convex hull $\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{S}^{\prime}\right)$


## Relation between CH and DT



- 4 distinct points $p, q, r, s$ in the plane, and let $p^{\prime}, q^{\prime}, r^{\prime}, s^{\prime}$ be their respective projections onto the paraboloid, $z=x^{2}+y^{2}$.
- The point $s$ lies within the circumcircle of pqr iff s' lies on the lower side of the plane passing through $p^{\prime}, q^{\prime}, r^{\prime}$.


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## Tangent and secant planes



## Tangent plane to paraboloid

- Non-vertical tangent plane through $\left(a, b, a^{2}+b^{2}\right)$
- Paraboloid $z=x^{2}+y^{2}$
- Derivation at this point

$$
\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}=2 x \quad \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}=2 y
$$

Evaluates to $2 a$ and $2 b$

- Plane: $z=2 a x+2 b y+\gamma \quad \gamma=-\left(a^{2}+b^{2}\right)$

$$
a^{2}+b^{2}=2 a \cdot a+2 b \cdot b+\gamma
$$

- Tangent plane through point $\left(a, b, a^{2}+b^{2}\right)$

$$
z=2 a x+2 b y-\left(a^{2}+b^{2}\right)
$$

## Plane intersecting the paraboloid (secant plane)

- Non-vertical tangent plane through $\left(a, b, a^{2}+b^{2}\right)$

$$
z=2 a x+2 b y-\left(a^{2}+b^{2}\right)
$$

- Shift this plane $r^{2}$ upwards -> secant plane intersects the paraboloid in an ellipse in 3D

$$
z=2 a x+2 b y-\left(a^{2}+b^{2}\right)+r^{2}
$$

- Eliminate $z$ (project to 2D) $z=x^{2}+y^{2}$

$$
x^{2}+y^{2}=2 a x+2 b y-\left(a^{2}+b^{2}\right)+r^{2}
$$

- This is a circle projected to 2D with center $(a, b)$ :

$$
(x-a)^{2}+(y-b)^{2}=r^{2}
$$

Felkel: Computational geometry

## Secant plane defined by three points



## Test inCircle - meaning in 3D

- Points $p, q, r$ are counterclockwise in the plane
- Test, if $s$ lies in the circumcircle of $\Delta p q r_{\text {is equal to }}$
= test, weather s'lies within a lower half space of the plane passing through $p^{\prime}, q^{\prime}, r^{\prime}$ (3D)
$=$ test, if quadruple $p^{\prime}, q^{\prime}, r^{\prime}, s^{\prime}$ is positively oriented (3D)
= test, if $s$ lies to the left of the oriented circle through pqr (2D)



## Delaunay triangulation and inCircle test

- DT splits each quadrangle by one of its two diagonals
- For a valid diagonal, the fourth point is not inCircle
=> the fourth point is right from the oriented circumcircle (outside)
=> inCircle(....) < 0 for CCW orientation
- inCircle $(P, Q, R, S)=$ inCircle $(P, R, S, Q)=-\operatorname{inCircle}(P, Q, S, R)=-\operatorname{inCircle}(S, Q, R, P)$

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## inCircle test detail

## Point $P$ moves right toward point $R$

We test position of $R$ in relation to oriented circle ( $P, Q, S$ )

inCircle(P, Q,S,R) < 0
$R$ is right (out)

inCircle(P,Q,S,R) $=0$
$R$ is on the circle

inCircle $(P, Q, S, R)>0$ $R$ is left (in)

Invalid diagonal
Valid diagonal

## inCircle test detail



## An the Voronoi diagram?

- VD and DT are dual structures
- Points and lines in the plane are dual to points and planes in 3D space
- VD of points in the plane can be transformed to intersection of halfspaces in 3D space


## Voronoi diagram as upper envelope in $\mathrm{R}^{\mathrm{d}+1}$

- For each point $p=(a, b)$ a tangent plane to the paraboloid is $\quad z=2 a x+2 b y-\left(a^{2}+b^{2}\right)$
- $H^{+}(p)$ is the set of points above this plane

$$
H^{+}(p)=\left\{(x, y, z) \mid z \geq 2 a x+2 b y-\left(a^{2}+b^{2}\right)\right.
$$



VD of points in the plane can be computed as intersection of halfspaces $\mathrm{H}^{+}\left(p_{i}\right)$ in 3D
This intersection of halfspaces
= unbounded convex polyhedron
= upper envelope of halfspaces $H^{+}\left(p_{i}\right)$

## Projection to 2D

- Upper envelope of tangent hyperplanes (through sites projected upwards to the cone)
- Projected to 2D gives Voronoi diagram


## Voronoi diagram as upper envelope in 3D



## Derivation of projected Voronoi edge

- 2 points: $p=(a, b)$ and $q=(c, d)$ in the plane $z=2 a x+2 b y-\left(a^{2}+b^{2}\right) \quad$ Tangent planes $z=2 c x+2 d y-\left(c^{2}+d^{2}\right) \quad$ to paraboloid
- Intersect the planes, project onto xy (eliminate z)

$$
x(2 a-2 c)+y(2 b-2 d)=\left(a^{2}-c^{2}\right)+\left(b^{2}-d^{2}\right)
$$

- This line passes through midpoint between $p$ and $q$

$$
\frac{a+c}{2}(2 a-2 c)+\frac{b+d}{2}(2 b-2 d)=\left(a^{2}-c^{2}\right)+\left(b^{2}-d^{2}\right)
$$

- It is perpendicular bisector with slope

$$
-(a-c) /(b-d)
$$

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