Transfer matrix methods for *m*-channel unitary operators

Christian Sadel joint work with O. Bourget, G. Moreno, A. Taarabt

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

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Transfermatrix methods for m-channel unitary operators.

- Background: The Hermitian case, transfer matrices and spectral averaging formula
- ② Unitary *m*-channel operators and spectral averaging formula
- Operation of the state of th

The Hermitian case: Transfer matrices and spectral averaging formula

• 1d Schrödinger or Jacobi operator on $\ell^2(\mathbb{Z})$ or $\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}_+)$

$$(H\psi)_n = -\psi_{n+1} + v_n \psi_n - \psi_{n-1}$$

where $v_n \in \mathbb{R}$.

• $H\psi = z\psi$ leads to

$$\psi_{n+1} = (v_n - z)\psi_n - \psi_{n-1}$$

or

$$\begin{pmatrix} \psi_{n+1} \\ \psi_n \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} v_n - z & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{=:T_n^z} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_n \\ \psi_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= T_n^z T_{n-1}^z \cdots T_0^z \begin{pmatrix} \psi_0 \\ \psi_{-1} \end{pmatrix}.$$

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Theorem (Carmona-Lacroix)

Let H be the operator on the half-line and let μ be the spectral measure at $|0\rangle \in \ell^2(\mathbb{Z}_+)$, and let $f \in C_b(\mathbb{R})$, then

$$\langle 0|f(H)|0\rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(E) d\mu(E) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{f(E) dE}{\pi \|T_n^E \cdots T_1^E T_0^E(\frac{1}{0})\|^2}$$

Corollary (Last-Simon)

Assume for p > 1 and a < b that there are $u_{n,E}$ such that

$$\liminf_{n\to\infty}\int_a^b \|T_n^E\cdots T_1^E T_0^E \begin{pmatrix} u_{n,E} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}\|^{2p} dE < \infty$$

then the spectrum of H is purely absolutely continuous in (a, b) and has a $L^{p}(a, b)$ density w.r.t. the Lebesgue measure.

Hermitian *m*-channel operators

• Consider a graph $\mathbb G$ partitioned into finite shells S_n , $|S_n|\geq m$

$$\ell^{2}(\mathbb{G}) = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} \ell^{2}(S_{n}) = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{C}^{S_{n}}$$
$$\psi = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} \psi_{n}, \qquad \psi_{n} \in \ell^{2}(S_{n}) = \mathbb{C}^{S_{n}}$$

• We say that *H* is an *m*-channel operator across this partition if *H* can be written as

$$(H\psi)_n = -\Phi_n \Upsilon_{n+1}^* \psi_{n+1} - \Upsilon_n \Phi_{n-1}^* \psi_{n-1} + V_n \psi_n$$

where $\Phi_{n-1} \in \mathbb{C}^{S_{n-1} \times m}$, $\Upsilon_n \in \mathbb{C}^{S_n \times m}$ are matrices of full rank m for $n \ge 1$.

• Think of Φ_n and Υ_n as a collection of m linear independent (orthogonal) vectors $\Phi_{n,j}, \Upsilon_{n,j} \in \mathbb{C}^{S_n}$, then $\Phi_n \Upsilon_{n+1}^* = \sum_{j=1}^m |\Phi_{n,j}\rangle \langle \Upsilon_{n+1,j}|$

Hermitian *m*-channel operators

As infinite matrix

$$\mathcal{H} = \begin{pmatrix} V_0 & -\Phi_0 \Upsilon_1^* & & \\ -\Upsilon_1 \Phi_0^* & V_1 & -\Phi_1 \Upsilon_2^* & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

• In that case, consider $H\psi = z\psi$ which gives

$$\Phi_n\Upsilon_{n+1}^*\psi_{n+1}+\Upsilon_n\Phi_{n-1}^*\psi_{n-1}=(V_n-z)\psi_n$$

Let x_n = Υ^{*}_nψ_n, x̃_n = Φ^{*}_nψ_n, and z ∉ spec(V_n) then it follows (V_n - z)⁻¹Φ_nx_{n+1} + (V_n - z)⁻¹Υ_nx̃_n = ψ_n
Defining (α_{z,n} β_{z,n} β_{z,n}) = (Υ^{*}_n) (V_n - z)⁻¹ (Υ_n Φ_n) this gives β_{z,n}x_{n+1} + α_{z,n}x̃_{n-1} = x_n, δ_{z,n}x_{n+1} + γ_{z,n}x̃_{n-1} = x̃_n

•
$$\beta_{z,n} x_{n+1} + \alpha_{z,n} \tilde{x}_{n-1} = x_n$$
, $\delta_{z,n} x_{n+1} + \gamma_{z,n} \tilde{x}_{n-1} = \tilde{x}_n$

• From there, if $\beta_{z,n}$ is invertible, one may deduce

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{n+1} \\ \tilde{x}_n \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \beta_{z,n}^{-1} & -\beta_{z,n}^{-1}\alpha_{z,n} \\ \delta_{z,n}\beta^{-1} & \gamma_{z,n} - \delta_{z,n}\beta_{z,n}^{-1}\alpha \end{pmatrix}}_{=:\mathcal{T}_n^z} \begin{pmatrix} x_n \\ \tilde{x}_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

• For n = 0 we choose any $\Upsilon_0 \in \mathbb{C}^{S_0 \times m}$ of full rank m.

Theorem (S.)

Let $\mu(f) = \Upsilon_0^* f(H) \Upsilon_0$ be the matrix valued spectral measure at Υ_0 , let $T_{0,n}^E = T_n^E \cdots T_0^E$, then for $f \in C_b(\mathbb{R})$

$$\int f(E) d\mu(E) = \int f(E) d\nu(E) +$$

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \int \frac{f(E)}{\pi} \left[\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{T}_{0,n}^E \end{pmatrix}^* \mathcal{T}_{0,n}^E \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{1} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \right]^{-1} dE$$

where ν is induced by finitely supported eigenfunctions.

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Theorem (S.)

Let $\varphi \in \mathbb{C}^m$ of norm 1, $\phi = \Upsilon_0 \varphi \in \mathbb{C}^{S_0} \subset \ell^2(\mathbb{G})$, $\mu_{\phi}(f) = \langle \phi | f(H) | \phi \rangle$, then with $\nu_{\phi} = \varphi^* \nu \varphi$ (ν as before) we have for any $f \in C_b(\mathbb{R})$

$$\int f(E) \mu_{\phi}(\mathrm{d}E) = \nu_{\phi}(\mathrm{d}E) + \lim_{n \to \infty} \int \frac{f(E) \,\mathrm{d}E}{\pi \min_{\varphi^* v = 0} \left\| T_{0,n}^E \left(\frac{\varphi_{+v}}{0} \right) \right\|^2}$$

• The connection to the former formula comes from the fact that for $\|x\| = 1$ one has

$$x^*(A^*A)^{-1}x = rac{1}{\min_{x^*v=0} \|A(x+v)\|^2}$$

• Most general form: ranks $r_n = \operatorname{rank}(\Upsilon_n) = \operatorname{rank}(\Phi_{n-1})$ increase, set $r_0 = \operatorname{rank}(\Upsilon_0) = 1$ so Υ_0 is a vector; the transfer matrices become sets $\mathbb{T}_n^z \subset \mathbb{C}^{2r_{n+1} \times 2r_n}$, particularly $\mathbb{T}_{0,n}^z \subset \mathbb{C}^{2r_{n+1} \times 2}$. Then

$$\int f(E) \mu_{\Upsilon_0}(\mathrm{d} E) = \int f(E) \nu(\mathrm{d} E) + \lim_{n \to \infty} \int \frac{f(E) \,\mathrm{d} E}{\pi \min \|\mathbb{T}_{0,n}^E(\frac{1}{0})\|^2}$$

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- Think of *H* as a sum of two Hermitian operators, H = W + V where V is the block-diagonal part $V = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} V_n$, and W the rank *m* connections, $W = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^{m} \left(|\Phi_{n-1,j}\rangle \langle \Upsilon_{n,j}| + |\Upsilon_{n,j}\rangle \langle \Phi_{n-1,j}| \right)$
- In the unitary case, instead of the sum of two Hermitian operators, we have the product of two unitary operators $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{WV}$, \mathcal{V} being a direct sum acting on the shells and \mathcal{W} giving rank *m* connections between S_n and $S_{n\pm 1}$.

Unitary *m*-channel operators

Let |S_m| ≥ 2m. We call U = WV and U
 = VW a conjugated pair of unitary m-channel operators if

$$\mathcal{V} = igoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} V_n \quad ext{where} \quad V_n \in \mathbb{U}(S_n) \ .$$
 $\mathcal{W}^{(u)} = u \, e_{(0,-)} e^*_{(0,-)} + P_0 +$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left((e_{(n-1,+)}, e_{(n,-)}) W_n \begin{pmatrix} e_{(n-1,+)}^* \\ e_{(n,-)}^* \end{pmatrix} + P_n \right)$$

where $e_{(n,\pm)} \in \mathbb{C}^{S_n \times m}$ are such that the column vectors of $Q_n = (e_{(n,-)}, e_{(n,+)}) \in \mathbb{C}^{S_n \times 2m}$ form an orthonormal system in \mathbb{C}^{S_n} , $P_n = \mathbf{1}_{S_n} - Q_n Q_n^*$, $u \in \mathbb{U}(m)$ is some sort of 'left boundary condition', and $W_n \in \mathbb{U}(2m)$.

• Using an orthonormal basis of \mathbb{C}^{S_n} where $e_{(n,-)}$ are the first and $e_{(n,+)}$ the last vectors, one may write $\Psi_n = \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_{(n,-)} \\ \Psi_{(n,0)} \\ \Psi_{(n,+)} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{|S_n|}$ where

 $\Psi_{(n,\pm)}=e^*_{(n,\pm)}\Psi_n\in\mathbb{C}^m\,,\quad \Psi_{(n,0)}\in\mathbb{C}^{|\mathcal{S}_n|-2m}$. In this basis

$$\mathcal{V} = \begin{pmatrix} V_0 & & \\ & V_1 & \\ & & \ddots \end{pmatrix}; \ \mathcal{W}^{(u)} = \begin{pmatrix} {}^{u} \mathbf{1}_{|S_0|-2m} & & & \\ & W_1 & & \\ & & \mathbf{1}_{|S_1|-2m} & & \\ & & & W_2 & \\ & & & & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

block overlaps

scattering zipper: $\forall n, |S_n| = 2m$







Examples

- Scattering zippers: $\forall n : |S_n| = 2m$
- one-channel scattering zippers include CMV matrices and 1D quantum walks :

For a 1D quantum walk on a (half) line, consider $\ell^2(\mathbb{Z} \times \{\uparrow,\downarrow\})$, or $\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}_+ \times \{\uparrow,\downarrow\})$, $S_n = \{(n,\uparrow), (n,\downarrow)\}$ we take a coin operator $\mathcal{C} = \bigoplus_n C_n$, $C_n \in \mathbb{U}(S_n)$, and the shift $S\delta_{n,\uparrow} = \delta_{n+1,\uparrow}$, $S\delta_{n,\downarrow} = \delta_{n-1,\downarrow}$. Then the walk is given by $\mathcal{U} = S\mathcal{C}$.

• Define W to interchange (n, \downarrow) with $(n + 1, \uparrow)$ and $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{WSC}$, then $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{SC} = \mathcal{WWSC} = \mathcal{WV}$ is in the form of a one-channel operator.



 2D type quantum walks on cylinders Z × Z_m or Z₊ × Z_m (using 4 spins going in 4 directions) Here one finds |S_n| = 4m and the connections are of rank m, meaning these models are not included within scattering zippers, but they are unitary m channel operators.



• Quantum walks on structures like nano tubes or (infinite) carbon-chains

Proposition (Marin, Schulz-Baldes)

With $\mathcal{U}^{(u)} = \mathcal{W}^{(u)}\mathcal{V}$, $\tilde{\mathcal{U}}^{(u)} = \mathcal{V}\mathcal{W}^{(u)}$, the following sets of equations are equivalent (in fact for solutions $\Psi, \Phi \in \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{G}}$)

$$\quad \tilde{\mathcal{U}}^{(u)} \Phi = z \Phi \land \ \mathcal{W}^{(u)} \Phi = \Psi.$$

• From (ii) one can deduce

$$\begin{split} \Psi_{(0,-)} &= u \Phi_{(0,-)} , \quad \Psi_{(n,0)} = \Phi_{(n,0)} , \quad \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_{(n-1,+)} \\ \Psi_{(n,-)} \end{pmatrix} = W_n \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_{(n-1,+)} \\ \Phi_{(n,-)} \end{pmatrix} \\ & \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_{(n,-)} \\ \Psi_{(n,+)} \end{pmatrix} = Q_n^* (z^{-1} V_n - P_n)^{-1} Q_n \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_{(n,-)} \\ \Phi_{(n,+)} \end{pmatrix} \end{split}$$

For $|z| = 1$ one finds that $Q_n^* (z^{-1} V_n - P_n)^{-1} Q_n$ is unitary.

Proposition (Marin, Schulz-Baldes; S.)

For a matrix
$$M = \begin{pmatrix} lpha & eta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{2m \times 2m}$$
 where eta is invertible define

$$\varphi_{\sharp}(M) = \begin{pmatrix} \beta^{-1} & -\beta^{-1}\alpha \\ \delta\beta^{-1} & \gamma - \delta\beta^{-1}\alpha \end{pmatrix}$$
 and $\varphi_{\flat}(M) = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma - \delta\beta^{-1}\alpha & \delta\beta^{-1} \\ -\beta^{-1}\alpha & \beta^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$

Then,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Psi_{-} \\ \Psi_{+} \end{pmatrix} = M \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_{-} \\ \Phi_{+} \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_{+} \\ \Psi_{+} \end{pmatrix} = \varphi_{\sharp}(M) \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_{-} \\ \Phi_{-} \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_{+} \\ \Phi_{+} \end{pmatrix} = \varphi_{\flat}(M) \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_{-} \\ \Psi_{-} \end{pmatrix}$$

Moreover, if $M \in \mathbb{U}(2m)$, then $\varphi_{\sharp}(M), \varphi_{\flat}(M) \in \mathbb{U}(m, m)$, where

$$\mathbb{U}(m,m) = \left\{ T \in \mathbb{C}^{2 \times 2} : T^* \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

A side remark: If $M \in \text{Her}(2m)$, then $\varphi_{\sharp}(M), \varphi_{\flat}(M)$ are Hermitian symplectic.

From there we get

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Phi_{(n,+)} \\ \Psi_{(n,+)} \end{pmatrix} = T_{z,n}^{\sharp} \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_{(n,-)} \\ \Phi_{(n,-)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad T_{z,n}^{\sharp} = \varphi_{\sharp} (Q_n^* (z^{-1} V_n - P_n)^{-1} Q_n)$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} \Psi_{(n,-)} \\ \Phi_{(n,-)} \end{pmatrix} = T_n^{\flat} \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_{(n-1,+)} \\ \Psi_{(n-1,+)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad T_n^{\flat} = \varphi_{\flat} (W_n) = \varphi_{\sharp} (W_n^*)$$

and we define the transfer matrices

$$T_{z,n} = T_{z,n}^{\sharp} T_n^{\flat}$$
 to get $\begin{pmatrix} \Phi_{(n,+)} \\ \Psi_{(n,+)} \end{pmatrix} = T_{z,n} \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_{(n-1,+)} \\ \Psi_{(n-1,+)} \end{pmatrix}$.

For n = 0 we let $T_0^{\flat} = \mathbf{1}$ • Note for |z| = 1 we have $T_{z,n} \in \mathbb{U}(m, m)$.

Theorem

Let m = 1 and let μ be the spectral measure of $\mathcal{U}^{(u)}$ at $e_{(0,-)}$, then, there is a pure point measure ν induced by eigenvectors of compact support, such that for $f \in C(S^1)$,

$$\int_{S^1} f(z) d\mu(z) = \int_{S^1} f(z) d\nu(z) +$$
$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{f(e^{i\varphi}) d\varphi}{\pi \| T_{e^{i\varphi}, n} T_{e^{i\varphi}, n-1} \cdots T_{e^{i\varphi}, 0} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \|^2}$$

In case m > 1 we have some positive $m \times m$ matrix valued measure and letting $T_{z,0,n} = T_{z,n}T_{z,n-2}\cdots T_{z,0}$ we get

$$\int_{S^1} f(z) \mathrm{d}\mu(z) = \int_{S^1} f(z) \mathrm{d}\nu(z) +$$

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\int_0^{2\pi}\frac{f(e^{i\varphi})}{\pi}\left(\left(\begin{smallmatrix}u^* \ \mathbf{1}\end{smallmatrix}\right)\mathcal{T}^*_{e^{i\varphi},0,n}\mathcal{T}_{e^{i\varphi},0,n}\left(\begin{smallmatrix}u\\\mathbf{1}\end{smallmatrix}\right)\right)^{-1}\mathrm{d}\varphi$$

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$$\begin{aligned} Q_{0,N} \ &= \ \begin{pmatrix} e_{(0,-)} & e_{(N,+)} \end{pmatrix} \ \in \ \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{G}_N \times 2}, \quad P_{0,N} = \mathbf{1}_{\mathbb{G}_N} - Q_{0,N} Q_{0,N}^* \ \in \ \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{G}_N \times \mathbb{G}_N} \\ R_{z,[0,N]}^{(u,v)} \ &= \ Q_{0,N}^* (z^{-1} \mathcal{U}_N^{(u,v)} - \mathbf{1}_{\mathbb{G}_N})^{-1} Q_{0,N} \end{aligned}$$

Proposition

For any N and any $u, v, z \in \mathbb{C}$ where all quantities are well defined, we have

$$\begin{split} \varphi_{\sharp}(R_{z,[0,N]}^{(u,v)}) &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathcal{T}_{z,[0,N]} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & u^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ \varphi_{\sharp}(\tilde{R}_{z,[0,N]}^{(u,v)}) &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & v^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \mathcal{T}_{z,[0,N]} \begin{pmatrix} u & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} . \end{split}$$

Corollary

Assume we find $\zeta_n(\varphi) \in \mathbb{C}^m$ and p > 1 such that

$$\liminf_{n \to \infty} \int_{a}^{b} \left\| T_{e^{i\varphi},0,n} \left(\begin{smallmatrix} u\zeta_{n}(\varphi) \\ \zeta_{n}(\varphi) + \chi \end{smallmatrix} \right) \right\|^{2p} \, \mathrm{d}\varphi \, < \, \infty$$

Then, the measure $\chi^*(\mu - \nu)\chi$ (part of spectral measure at $e_{(0,-)}\chi$) is purely absolutely continuous in $e^{i(a,b)}$, with respect to the Haar measure on S^1 .

Corollary

Let be given a periodic scattering zipper $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{WV}$, with $V_n = \begin{pmatrix} a_n & b_n \\ c_n & b_n \end{pmatrix}, W_n = \begin{pmatrix} a_n & b_n \\ c_n & d_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{U}(2), V_{n+p} = V_n, W_{n+p} = W_n,$ $b_n \neq 0, b_n \neq 0$. Let $T_z = T_{z,1,p}$ be the transfer matrix for the operator \mathcal{U} over one period and let $\Sigma = \{z \in S^1 : |\operatorname{Tr}(T_z)| < 2\}.$

Let $\widehat{\mathcal{U}}_{\omega} = \widehat{\mathcal{W}}_{\omega} \widehat{\mathcal{V}}_{\omega}$ be a random perturbation where

• The family of pairs $(\widehat{V}_n, \widehat{W}_n)_n$ is independent

•
$$\sum_{n} \left[\|\mathbb{E}(\widehat{V}_{n} - V_{n})\| + \|\mathbb{E}(\widehat{W}_{n} - W_{n})\| + \mathbb{E}(\|\widehat{V}_{n} - V_{n}\|^{2}) + \mathbb{E}(\|\widehat{W}_{n} - W_{n}\|^{2}) \right]$$

< ∞

• $\exists \varepsilon > 0 \ \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}_+ : |b_n| > \varepsilon \land |b_n| > \varepsilon$ almost surely.

Then

• The spectrum of \mathcal{U} and, almost surely, the spectrum of \mathcal{U}_{ω} are purely absolutely continuous in Σ .

- Connect products of first *n* transfer matrices to Green's function and Poisson kernel of spectral measure for finite pieces of the operator U. Due to the set-up and "grouping" of shells to bigger shells, formulas only need to be proved for n = 1.
- Take a spectral average over a right boundary condition v and realize that by strong resolvent convergence, for $n \to \infty$ the averaged measures converge weakly to the actual spectral measure
- On the level of the Poisson transform this corresponds to replacing *v* by **0**.
- Then, we compute the density of the absolutely continuous part and analyze the singular part.

- Transfer matrices and spectral averaging formula for general finite hopping unitary operators
- Deift-Killip type Theorems for quantum walks on antitrees and operators with radial symmetry; sum rules
- Absolutely continuous spectrum for random *l*² perturbed coins on the strip, cylindrical structures, nano tubes

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THANK YOU!!

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