

Congruence Properties of Andrews' SPT-Function

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ABSTRACT

Let $spt(n)$ denote the total number of appearances of the smallest part in each partition of n . In 1988, Garvan gave new combinatorial interpretations of Ramanujan's partition congruences mod 5, 7 and 11 in terms of a crank for weighted vector partitions. This paper shows how to generate the generating functions for $spt(n)$, elaborately and also shows how to prove the relation among the terms $spt(n)$ and. In 2008, Andrews stated Ramanujan-type congruences for the spt -function mod 5, 7 and 13. The new combinatorial interpretations of the spt -congruences mod 5 and 7 are given in this article. These are in terms of the spt -crank but for a restricted set of vector partitions. The proofs depend on relating the spt -crank with the crank of vector partitions.

Keywords: Crank, congruences, product notations, Ramanujan-type congruences, spt -function, vector partitions

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INTRODUCTION

We give some related definitions of $spt(n)$, vector partitions, $M_s(m, n)$, $M_s(m, t, n)$, and $(z, x)_\infty$. We discuss the generating function for $spt(n)$ and prove the Theorem 1 in terms of $M_s(m, n)$ and also establish the relation among the terms $spt(n)$, $M_s(m, n)$ and $\omega\left(\frac{-}{\pi}\right)$. In this paper how to prove the Theorems: $5/spt(5n+4)$, $7/spt(7n+5)$, and $13/spt(13n+6)$ with the help of examples. These Theorems are the combinatorial interpretations of Ramanujan's famous partition congruences mod 5, 7 and 13. The proofs of the Theorems 2, 3 and 4 depend on relating the spt -crank but for a restricted set of vector partitions.

SOME RELATED DEFINITIONS

$spt(n)$: $spt(n)$ is the total number of appearances of the smallest parts in all the partitions of n , like:

n		$spt(n)$
1	$\dot{1}$	1
2	$\dot{2}, \dot{1} + \dot{1}$	3
3	$\dot{3}, 2 + \dot{1}, \dot{1} + \dot{1} + \dot{1}$	5
4	$\dot{4}, 3 + \dot{1}, \dot{2} + \dot{2}, 2 + \dot{1} + \dot{1}, \dot{1} + \dot{1} + \dot{1} + \dot{1}$	10
5	$\dot{5}, 4 + \dot{1}, 3 + \dot{2}, 3 + \dot{1} + \dot{1}, 2 + 2 + \dot{1}, 2 + \dot{1} + \dot{1} + \dot{1}, \dot{1} + \dot{1} + \dot{1} + \dot{1} + \dot{1}$	14
...

Vector partitions [Garvan (2013)]:

Let, P denotes the set of partitions and D denotes the set of partitions into distinct parts. The set of vector partitions V is defined by the Cartesian product, $V = D \times P \times P$.

For a partition π , denote $S(\pi)$ as the smallest part in the partition with $S(\phi) = \infty$ for the empty partition. We denote the following subset of vector partitions,

$$S = \{ \vec{\pi} = (\pi_1, \pi_2, \pi_3) \in V : 1 \leq S(\pi_1) < \infty \text{ and } S(\pi_1) \leq \min(S(\pi_2), S(\pi_3)) \}.$$

For $\vec{\pi} \in S$ we define the weight ω_1 by $\omega_1(\vec{\pi}) = (-1)^{\#(\pi_1)-1}$, the crank $(\vec{\pi}) = \#(\pi_2) - \#(\pi_3)$ and $|\vec{\pi}| = |\pi_1| + |\pi_2| + |\pi_3|$, where $|\pi_j|$ is the sum of the parts of π_j .

$M_s(m, n)$: The number of vector partitions of n in S with crank m counted according to the weight ω is denoted by

$$M_s(m, n), \text{ so that } M_s(m, n) = \sum_{\vec{\pi} \in S, |\vec{\pi}|=n} \omega(\vec{\pi}).$$

$M_s(m, t, n)$: The number of vector partitions of n in S with crank congruent to m modulo t counted according to

the weight ω is denoted by $M_s(m, t, n)$, so that;

$$M_s(m, t, n) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} M_s(kt + m, n) = \sum_{\substack{\vec{\pi} \in S, |\vec{\pi}|=n \\ \text{crank}(\vec{\pi}) \equiv m \pmod{t}}} \omega(\vec{\pi})$$

and $(z; x)_{\infty} = (z)_{\infty} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (z; x)_n = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - zx^{n-1}) = (1 - z)(1 - zx)(1 - zx^2) \dots$ where

$$|x| < 1.$$

GENERATING FUNCTION [GARVAN (1986)]

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} spt(n) x^n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{(1 - x^n)^2 (x^{n+1}; x)_{\infty}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{(1 - x^n)^2 (1 - x^{n+1})(1 - x^{n+2}) \dots}$$

$$= \frac{x}{(1-x)^2(x^2; x)_{\infty}} + \frac{x^2}{(1-x)^2(x^3; x)_{\infty}} + \frac{x^3}{(1-x)^2(x^4; x)_{\infty}} + \dots$$

$$= x + 3x^2 + 5x^3 + 10x^4 + 14x^5 + 26x^6 + \dots$$

$$= spt(1)x + spt(2)x^2 + spt(3)x^3 + \dots$$

$$\textbf{Theorem 1: } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} M_s(m, n) z^m x^n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n (x^{n+1}; x)_{\infty}}{(zx^n; x)_{\infty} (z^{-1}x^n; x)_{\infty}}$$

$$\textbf{Proof:} \quad \text{If} \quad t \geq 1 \quad \text{then,} \quad \frac{x^t (x^{t+1}; x)_{\infty}}{(zx^t; x)_{\infty} (z^{-1}x^t; x)_{\infty}}$$

$$= \frac{x^t (1 - x^{t+1}) (1 - x^{t+2}) (1 - x^{t+3}) \dots}{(1 - zx^t) (1 - zx^{t+1}) \dots (1 - z^{-1}x^t) (1 - z^{-1}x^{t+1}) \dots}$$

$$= \left(\begin{matrix} \sum_{\pi_1 \in D} (-1)^{\#(\pi_1)-1} x^{|\pi_1|} \\ s(\pi_1)=t \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} \sum_{\pi_2 \in P} \#(\pi_2) x^{|\pi_2|} \\ t \leq s(\pi_2) \end{matrix} \right) \left(\begin{matrix} \sum_{\pi_3 \in P} -\#(\pi_3) x^{|\pi_3|} \\ t \leq s(\pi_3) \end{matrix} \right) \quad [\text{Andrews (1985)}]$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{\vec{\pi}=(\pi_1, \pi_2, \pi_3) \in S \\ S(\pi_1)=t}} \omega(\vec{\pi}) z^{\text{crank}(\vec{\pi})} x^{|\vec{\pi}|}.$$

$$\text{So} \quad \text{that; } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n (x^{n+1}; x)_{\infty}}{(zx^n; x)_{\infty} (z^{-1}x^n; x)_{\infty}} = \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \sum_{\substack{\vec{\pi} \in S \\ S(\pi_1)=t}} \omega(\vec{\pi}) z^{\text{crank}(\vec{\pi})} x^{|\vec{\pi}|}$$

$$= \sum_{\vec{\pi}=(\pi_1, \pi_2, \pi_3) \in S} \omega(\vec{\pi}) z^{\text{crank}(\vec{\pi})} x^{|\vec{\pi}|}$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} M_s(m, n) z^m x^n, \quad [\text{Andrews, etel (1988)}].$$

$$\textbf{Corollary 1:} \text{ For } n \geq 1, \quad spt(n) = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} M_s(m, n) = \sum_{\vec{\pi} \in S, |\vec{\pi}|=n} \omega(\vec{\pi})$$

Proof: If $z = 1$ from above we get;

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} M_s(m, n) x^n = \sum_{\vec{\pi}=(\pi_1, \pi_2, \pi_3) \in S} \omega(\vec{\pi}) x^{|\vec{\pi}|} = \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \sum_{\substack{\vec{\pi} \in S, |\vec{\pi}|=n \\ S(\pi_1)=t}} \omega(\vec{\pi}) x^{|\vec{\pi}|}$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n (x^{n+1}; x)_{\infty}}{(x^n; x)_{\infty} (x^n; x)_{\infty}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{(1-x^n)^2 (x^{n+1}; x)_{\infty}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} spt(n) x^n.$$

Equating the coefficient of x^n we get;

$$spt(n) = \sum_{\vec{\pi} \in S, |\vec{\pi}|=n} \omega(\vec{\pi}) = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} M_S(m, n)$$

$$\text{i.e., } spt(n) = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} M_S(m, n) = \sum_{\vec{\pi} \in S, |\vec{\pi}|=n} \omega(\vec{\pi}).$$

Theorem 2: $M_S(k, 5, 5n+4) = \frac{spt(5n+4)}{5}$, for $0 \leq k \leq 4$.

Proof: We prove Theorem 2 with an example. There is a table of the 16 vector partitions

$\vec{\pi} \in S$ with $|\vec{\pi}| = 4$ as follows:

Table-1

Vector partitions of 4	Weight $\omega(\vec{\pi})$	Crank $(\vec{\pi})$
$\vec{\pi}_1 = (4, \phi, \phi)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_2 = (3+1, \phi, \phi)$	-1	0
$\vec{\pi}_3 = (1, 3, \phi)$	+1	1
$\vec{\pi}_4 = (1, \phi, 3)$	+1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_5 = (2, 2, \phi)$	+1	1
$\vec{\pi}_6 = (2, \phi, 2)$	+1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_7 = (2+1, 1, \phi)$	-1	1
$\vec{\pi}_8 = (2+1, \phi, 1)$	-1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_9 = (1, 1+2, \phi)$	+1	2
$\vec{\pi}_{10} = (1, \phi, 1+2)$	+1	-2
$\vec{\pi}_{11} = (1, 1, 2)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{12} = (1, 2, 1)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{13} = (1, 1+1+1, \phi)$	+1	3
$\vec{\pi}_{14} = (1, \phi, 1+1+1)$	+1	-3
$\vec{\pi}_{15} = (1, 1+1, 1)$	+1	1
$\vec{\pi}_{16} = (1, 1, 1+1)$	+1	-1

From the table we get,

$$M_s(0,5,4) = \omega(\vec{\pi}_1) + \omega(\vec{\pi}_2) + \omega(\vec{\pi}_{11}) + \omega(\vec{\pi}_{12}) = 1-1+1+1 = 2.$$

Similarly, $M_s(0,5,4) = M_s(1,5,4) = M_s(2,5,4) = M_s(3,5,4) =$

$$M_s(4,5,4) = 2 = \frac{spt(4)}{5}.$$

Hence, $M_s(k,5,5n+4) = \frac{spt(5n+4)}{5}$, for $0 \leq k \leq 4$. Hence, the Theorem.

We can find the following relations from above table:

$$M_s(0,5,4) = +1-1+1+1=2,$$

$$M_s(1,5,4) = +1+1-1+1=2,$$

$$M_s(2,5,4) = M_s(-3,5,4) = +1+1=2,$$

$$M_s(3,5,4) = M_s(-2,5,4) = +1+1=2,$$

$$M_s(4,5,4) = M_s(-1,5,4) = +1+1-1+1=2.$$

So that we can see that, $M_s(m,n) \geq 0$ for all m and n .

$$M_s(m,n) = M_s(-m,n) \text{ and } M_s(m,t,n) = M_s(t-m,t,n).$$

Theorem 3: $M_s(k,7,7n+5) = \frac{spt(7n+5)}{7}$, for $0 \leq k \leq 6$.

Proof: We prove the Theorem 3 with an example. There is a table of the 32 vector partitions $\vec{\pi} \in S$ with $|\vec{\pi}| = 5$ as follows:

Table-2

Vector partitions of 5	Weight $\omega(\vec{\pi})$	Crank $(\vec{\pi})$
$\vec{\pi}_1 = (5, \phi, \phi)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_2 = (1, 4, \phi)$	+1	1
$\vec{\pi}_3 = (1, \phi, 4)$	+1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_4 = (2, 3, \phi)$	+1	1
$\vec{\pi}_5 = (2, \phi, 3)$	+1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_6 = (1, 3+1, \phi)$	+1	2
$\vec{\pi}_7 = (1, \phi, 3+1)$	+1	-2
$\vec{\pi}_8 = (1, 3, 1)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_9 = (1, 1, 3)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{10} = (1, 2, 2)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{11} = (1, 2+2, \phi)$	+1	2

$\vec{\pi}_{12} = (1, \phi, 2 + 2)$	+1	-2
$\vec{\pi}_{13} = (1, 1 + 1 + 2, \phi)$	+1	3
$\vec{\pi}_{14} = (1, \phi, 1 + 1 + 2)$	+1	-3
$\vec{\pi}_{15} = (1, 1 + 1, 2)$	+1	1
$\vec{\pi}_{16} = (1, 2, 1 + 1)$	+1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_{17} = (1, 1 + 2, 1)$	+1	1
$\vec{\pi}_{18} = (1, 1, 1 + 2)$	+1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_{19} = (1, 1 + 1 + 1 + 1, \phi)$	+1	3
$\vec{\pi}_{20} = (1, \phi, 1 + 1 + 1 + 1)$	+1	-3
$\vec{\pi}_{21} = (1, 1 + 1, 1 + 1)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{22} = (1, 1 + 1 + 1, 1)$	+1	2
$\vec{\pi}_{23} = (1, 1, 1 + 1 + 1)$	+1	-2
$\vec{\pi}_{24} = (1 + 3, 1, \phi)$	-1	+1
$\vec{\pi}_{25} = (1 + 3, \phi, 1)$	-1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_{26} = (1 + 4, \phi, \phi)$	-1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{27} = (2 + 3, \phi, \phi)$	-1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{28} = (2 + 1, 2, \phi)$	-1	1
$\vec{\pi}_{29} = (2 + 1, \phi, 2)$	-1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_{30} = (2 + 1, 1, 1)$	-1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{31} = (2 + 1, 1 + 1, \phi)$	-1	2
$\vec{\pi}_{32} = (2 + 1, \phi, 1 + 1)$	-1	-2

From the above table we get,

$$M_s(0, 7, 5) = +1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 = 2$$

$$M_s(1, 7, 5) = +1 + 1 - 1 - 1 + 1 + 1 = 2$$

$$M_s(2, 7, 5) = +1 + 1 + 1 - 1 = 2$$

$$M_s(3, 7, 5) = M_s(-4, 7, 5) = +1 + 1 = 2$$

$$M_s(4, 7, 5) = M_s(-3, 7, 5) = +1 + 1 = 2$$

$$M_s(5, 7, 5) = M_s(-2, 7, 5) = +1 + 1 + 1 - 1 = 2$$

$$M_s(6, 7, 5) = M_s(-1, 7, 5) = +1 + 1 - 1 - 1 + 1 + 1 = 2$$

$$\text{So that, } M_s(0, 7, 5) = M_s(1, 7, 5) = M_s(2, 7, 5) = M_s(3, 7, 5) =$$

$$M_s(4,7,5) = M_s(5,7,5) = M_s(6,7,5) = 2 = \frac{spt(5)}{7}.$$

Hence, $M_s(k,7,7n+5) = \frac{spt(7n+5)}{7}$, for $0 \leq k \leq 6$. Hence, the Theorem.

Theorem 4: $spt(13n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{13}$.

Proof: We prove the Theorem 4 with an example. There is a table of the 64 vector partitions $\vec{\pi} \in S$ with $|\vec{\pi}| = 6$ as follows:

Table-3

Vector partitions of 6	Weight $\omega(\vec{\pi})$	Crank $(\vec{\pi})$
$\vec{\pi}_1 = (6, \phi, \phi)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_2 = (1+5, \phi, \phi)$	-1	0
$\vec{\pi}_3 = (1, 5, \phi)$	+1	+1
$\vec{\pi}_4 = (1, \phi, 5)$	+1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_5 = (2+4, \phi, \phi)$	-1	0
$\vec{\pi}_6 = (2, \phi, 4)$	+1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_7 = (2, 4, \phi)$	+1	1
$\vec{\pi}_8 = (1, 1+4, \phi)$	+1	2
$\vec{\pi}_9 = (1, \phi, 1+4)$	+1	-2
$\vec{\pi}_{10} = (1, 1, 4)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{11} = (1, 4, 1)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{12} = (1+4, 1, \phi)$	-1	+1
$\vec{\pi}_{13} = (1+4, \phi, 1)$	-1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_{14} = (3, 3, \phi)$	+1	1
$\vec{\pi}_{15} = (1, 2, 3)$	+1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_{16} = (1, 2, 3)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{17} = (1, 3, 2)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{18} = (1, 2+3, \phi)$	+1	2
$\vec{\pi}_{19} = (1, \phi, 2+3)$	+1	-2
$\vec{\pi}_{20} = (1+2, \phi, 3)$	-1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_{21} = (1+2, 3, \phi)$	-1	1
$\vec{\pi}_{22} = (1+3, \phi, 2)$	-1	-1

$\vec{\pi}_{23} = (1 + 3, 2, \phi)$	-1	1
$\vec{\pi}_{24} = (1, 1 + 3, 1)$	+1	1
$\vec{\pi}_{25} = (1, 1, 1 + 3)$	+1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_{26} = (1 + 3, 1 + 1, \phi)$	-1	2
$\vec{\pi}_{27} = (1 + 3, \phi, 1 + 1)$	-1	-2
$\vec{\pi}_{28} = (1 + 3, 1, 1)$	-1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{29} = (2, 2, 2)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{30} = (2, 2 + 2, \phi)$	+1	2
$\vec{\pi}_{31} = (2, \phi, 2 + 2)$	+1	-2
$\vec{\pi}_{32} = (1 + 2, 2, 1)$	-1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{33} = (1 + 2, 1, 2)$	-1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{34} = (1 + 2, 1 + 2, \phi)$	-1	2
$\vec{\pi}_{35} = (1 + 2, \phi, 1 + 2)$	-1	-2
$\vec{\pi}_{36} = (1, 1 + 1, 1 + 1 + 1)$	+1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_{37} = (1, 1 + 1 + 1, 1 + 1)$	+1	1
$\vec{\pi}_{38} = (1, 1 + 1 + 1 + 1, 1)$	+1	3
$\vec{\pi}_{39} = (1, 1, 1 + 1 + 1 + 1)$	+1	-3
$\vec{\pi}_{40} = (1, 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1, \phi)$	+1	5
$\vec{\pi}_{41} = (1, \phi, 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1)$	+1	-5
$\vec{\pi}_{42} = (1, 1 + 1 + 1, 2)$	+1	2
$\vec{\pi}_{43} = (1, 1 + 1 + 1 + 2, \phi)$	+1	4
$\vec{\pi}_{44} = (1, \phi, 1 + 1 + 1 + 2)$	+1	-4
$\vec{\pi}_{45} = (1, 2, 1 + 1 + 1)$	+1	-2
$\vec{\pi}_{46} = (1, 1 + 1, 1 + 2)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{47} = (1, 1 + 2, 1 + 1)$	+1	0
$\vec{\pi}_{48} = (1, 1, 1 + 1 + 2)$	+1	-2
$\vec{\pi}_{49} = (1, 1 + 1 + 2, 1)$	+1	2
$\vec{\pi}_{50} = (1 + 2, 1 + 1 + 1, \phi)$	-1	3
$\vec{\pi}_{51} = (1 + 2, \phi, 1 + 1 + 1)$	-1	-3
$\vec{\pi}_{52} = (1 + 2, 1 + 1, 1)$	-1	1
$\vec{\pi}_{53} = (1 + 2, 1, 1 + 1)$	-1	-1

$\vec{\pi}_{54} = (1, 1 + 2 + 2, \phi)$	+1	3
$\vec{\pi}_{55} = (1, \phi, 1 + 2 + 2)$	+1	-3
$\vec{\pi}_{56} = (1, 1 + 2, 2)$	+1	1
$\vec{\pi}_{57} = (1, 2, 1 + 2)$	+1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_{58} = (1, 2 + 2, 1)$	+1	1
$\vec{\pi}_{59} = (1, 1, 2 + 2)$	+1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_{60} = (1, 1 + 1 + 3, \phi)$	+1	3
$\vec{\pi}_{61} = (1, \phi, 1 + 1 + 3)$	+1	-3
$\vec{\pi}_{62} = (1, 1 + 1, 3)$	+1	1
$\vec{\pi}_{63} = (1, 3, 1 + 1)$	+1	-1
$\vec{\pi}_{64} = (1 + 2 + 3, \phi, \phi)$	+1	0

From the table we get; $M_s(0,13,6) = +1-1-1+1+1+1-1+1-1-1+1+1 = 4$,

$$M_s(1,13,6) = +1+1-1+1-1-1+1+1-1+1+1 = 4,$$

$$M_s(2,13,6) = +1+1-1+1-1+1+1 = 3,$$

$$M_s(3,13,6) = +1-1+1+1 = 2,$$

$$M_s(4,13,6) = +1 = 1,$$

$$M_s(5,13,6) = +1 = 1,$$

$$M_s(6,13,6) = 0,$$

$$M_s(7,13,6) = 0,$$

$$M_s(8,13,6) = M_s(-5,13,6) = +1 = 1,$$

$$M_s(9,13,6) = M_s(-4,13,6) = +1 = 1,$$

$$M_s(10,13,6) = M_s(-3,13,6) = +1-1+1+1 = 2,$$

$$M_s(11,13,6) = M_s(-2,13,6) = +1+1-1+1-1+1+1 = 3,$$

$$M_s(12,13,6) = M_s(-1,13,6) = +1+1-1+1-1+1+1-1+1+1+1 = 4.$$

$$\therefore \sum_{m=-5}^5 M_s(m,13,6) = \sum_{m=0}^{12} M_s(m,13,6) = spt(13n+6) = 26, \text{ where } n = 0.$$

i.e., $spt(13n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{13}$. Hence the Theorem.

CONCLUSION

In this study we have discussed the set of vector partitions and have discussed the generating function for $\text{spt}(n)$ and also have established the generating function for $M_s(m, n)$. We have shown a relation among the terms $\text{spt}(n)$, $M_s(m, n)$, and $\omega(\pi)$ and have satisfied the Theorems 2, 3, and 4 with the help of examples.

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