

Abstract

We introduce a new probabilistic approach for multiple object extraction from still images, applied to 2D and 3D objects. A new model based on 3D scene simulation is applied to counting of penguins in colonies from images with perspective effects. In the 2D model, we introduce a new optimization method combining Multiple-Birth-and-Death and Graph-Cut. Our model is *object based* and embedded in a marked point process. A Gibbs energy is defined on the configuration space, taking into account both prior and data information, and we minimize it.

Context

Aim: Penguin and flamingo counting in colonies, for *Ecological* interest

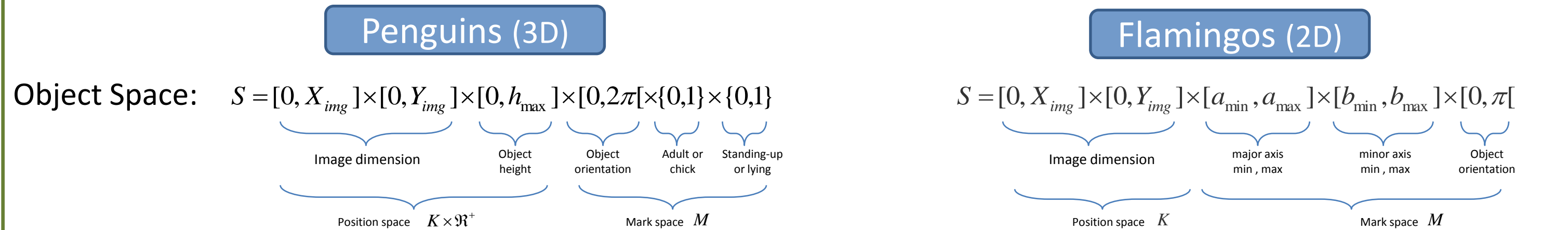
Data: Images from ground using standard camera, (penguins) and aerial images (flamingos)

Ecologists of "Tour du Valat"

Proposed method:
Marked Point Process



Proposed model

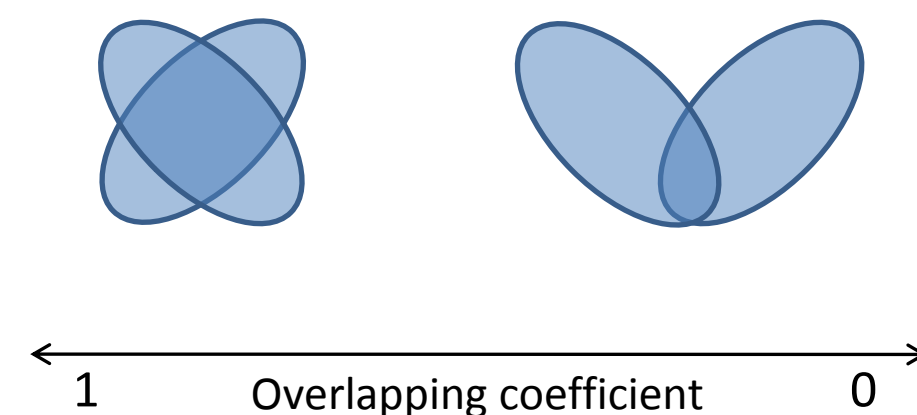


Configuration Space:

$$\Omega = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \Omega_n, \quad \Omega_n = \{\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n\} \subset K \times M$$

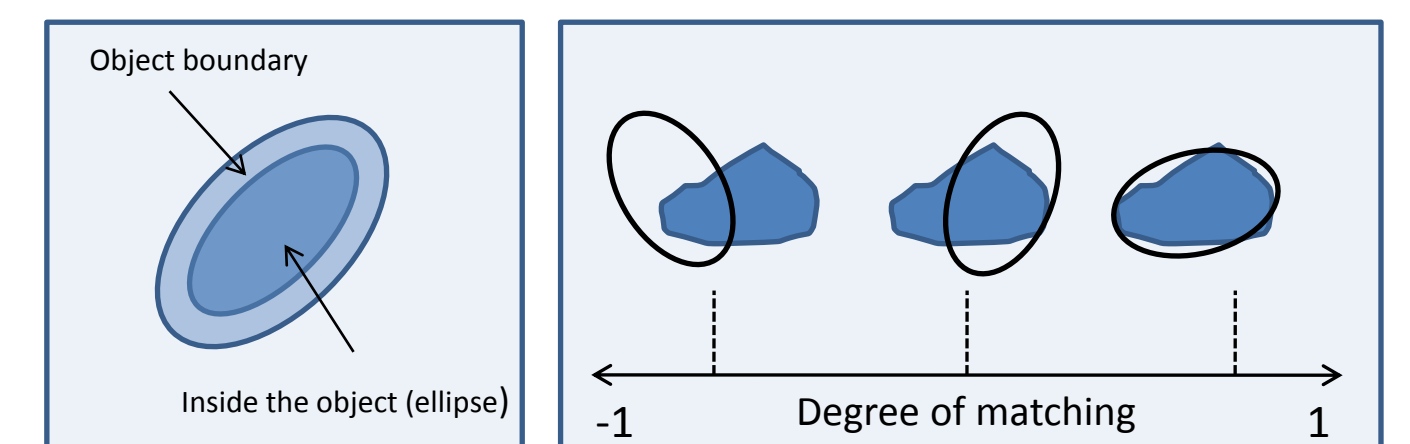
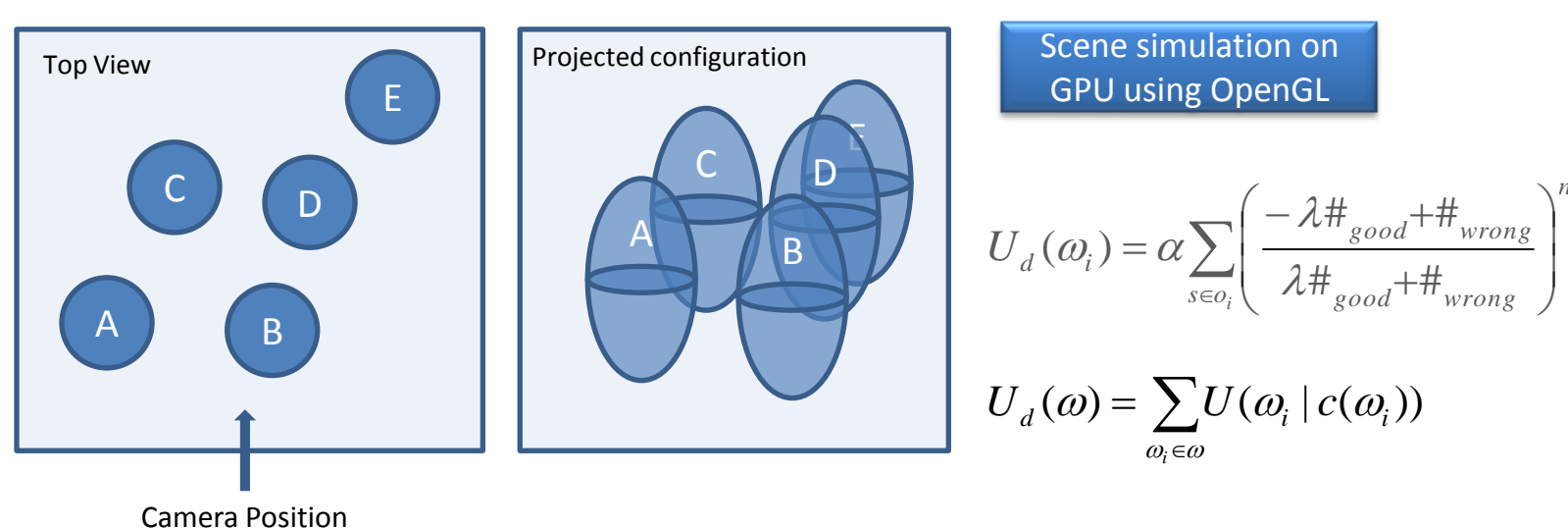
Gibbs density define on the configuration space: $h(\omega) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp\{-U_d(\omega) + \gamma_p U_p(\omega)\}$ (a prior energy and a data energy)

Prior energy:



$$U_p(\omega) = \sum_{\omega_i, \omega_j \in \omega} \max_{\omega_i, \omega_j} O(\omega_i, \omega_j)$$

Data energy:

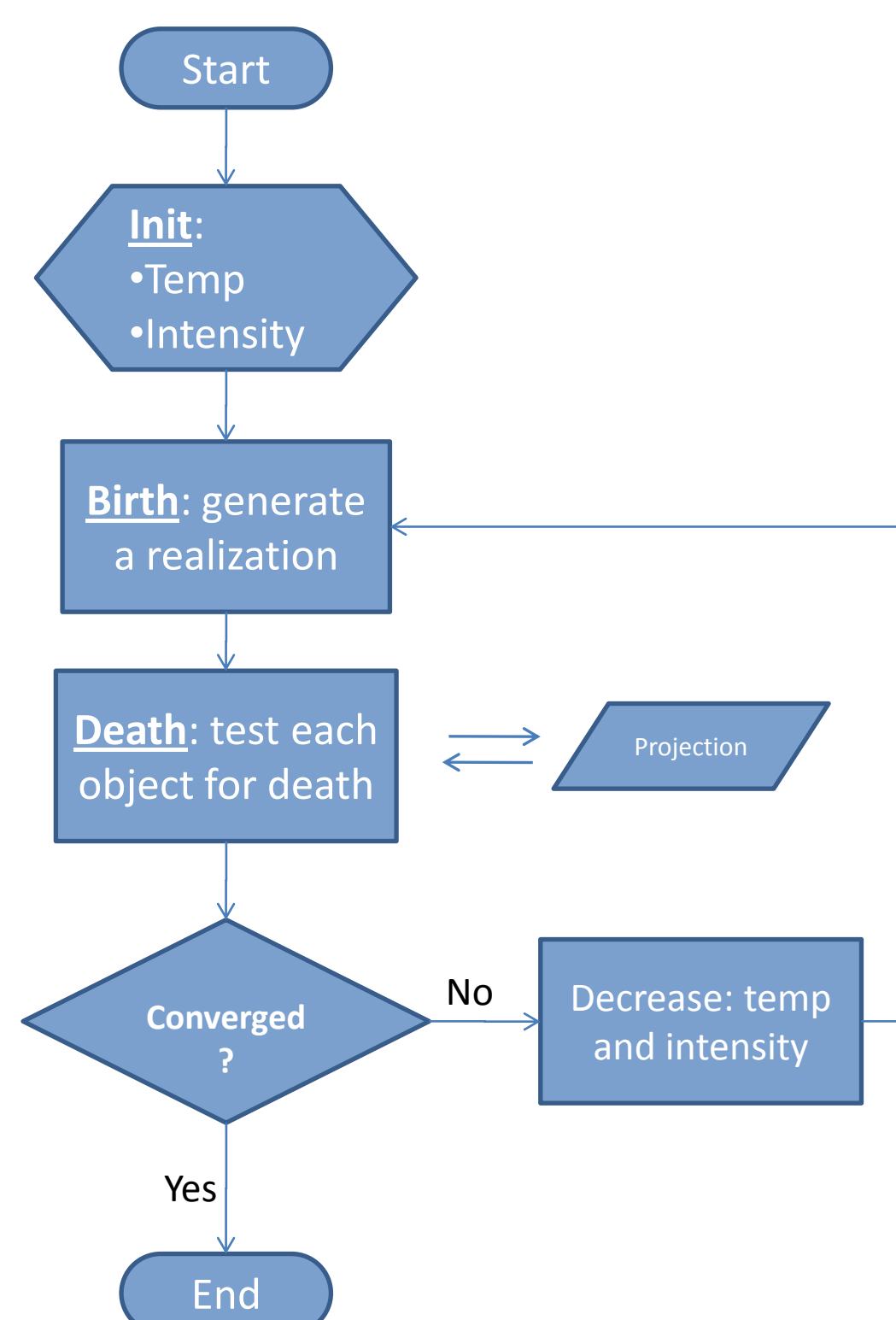


Camera parameter:

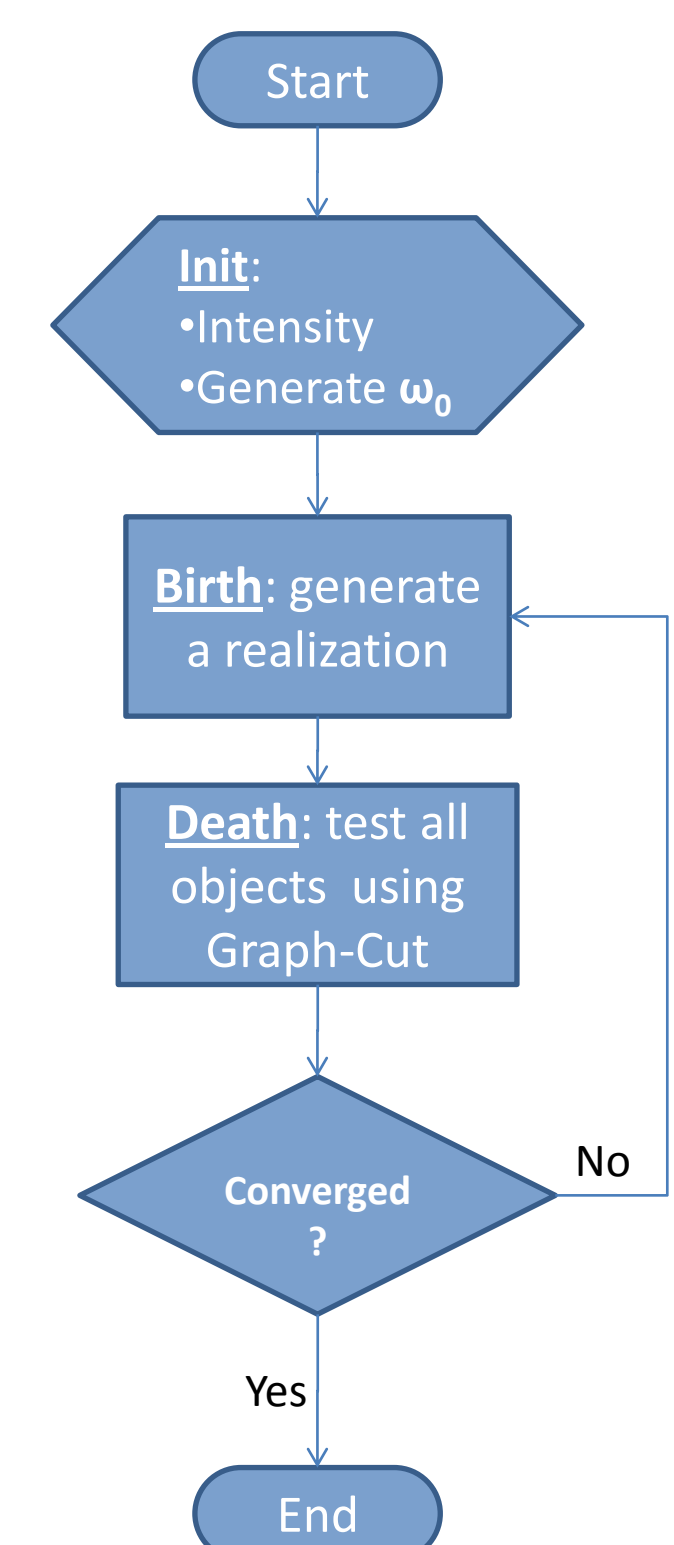
- For the 3D scene, we manually approximate those parameters for the real images
- A new method for estimation based on stochastic grid will be integrated

Optimization algorithms

Multiple Birth and Death (MBD) (3D model)



Combined MBD and Graph-Cut (2D model)



Conclusion

3D model:

- The proposed algorithm gives promising results for *multiple object extraction under occlusion and perspective effects*.
- Simulation allows the use of accurate geometrical models (any object)

2D model:

Major advantages of the new optimization method are:

- reduces the number of the model parameters
- the model became highly parallelizable.

Acknowledge

Ecologists of "Tour du Valat":

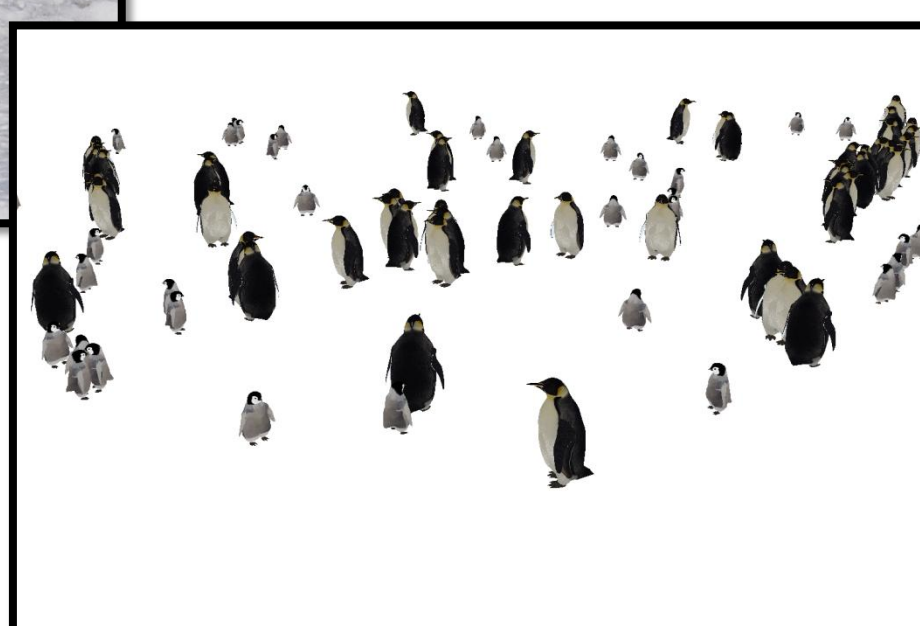
- providing the images
- evaluating the flamingo counting results
- their contribution in the definition of an imaging acquisition protocol for the penguin colonies

Results

Semi-synthetic image



Input
© Ariana / INRIA



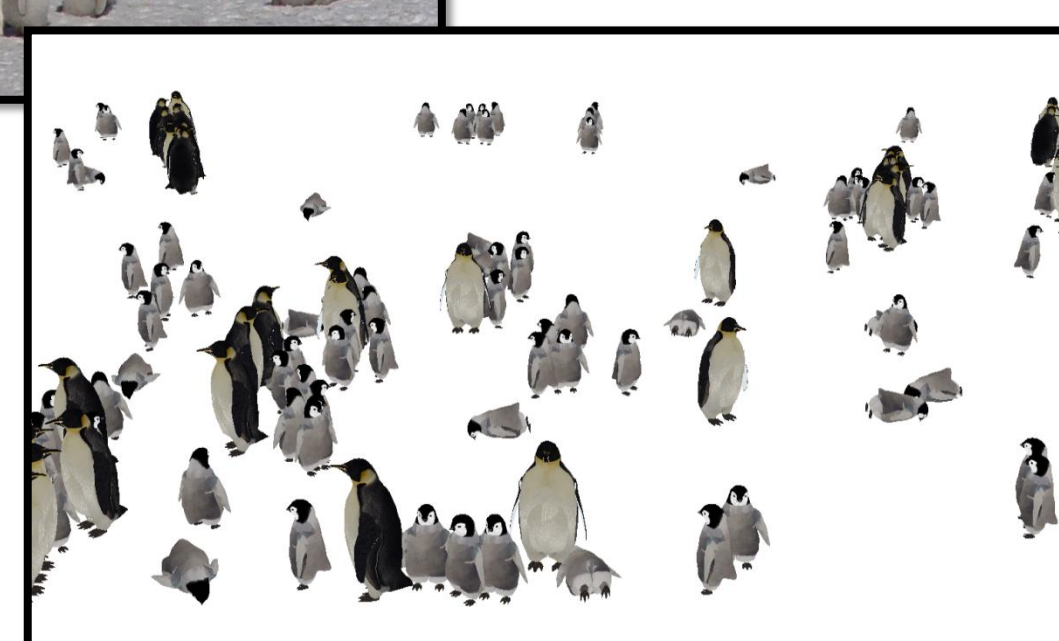
Output
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Penguins (3D)

Real image



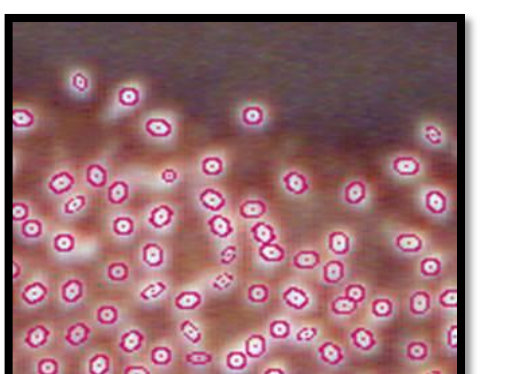
Input
© Tour du Valat



Output
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Flamingos (2D)

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Flamingo colony in France
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