

# Prediction of Cascading Failures and Simultaneous Learning of Functional Connectivity in Power System

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# Cascading Failures: State-of-the-Art

*A quick succession of multiple component failures usually triggered by one or more disturbance events such as extreme weather, equipment failure, or operational errors, and might also lead to a blackout.*

- *Methodologies for cascading outage analysis*
  - *static computation*
  - ***dynamic computation***
  - *combination of both*

IEEE Cascading  
Failure Working  
Group



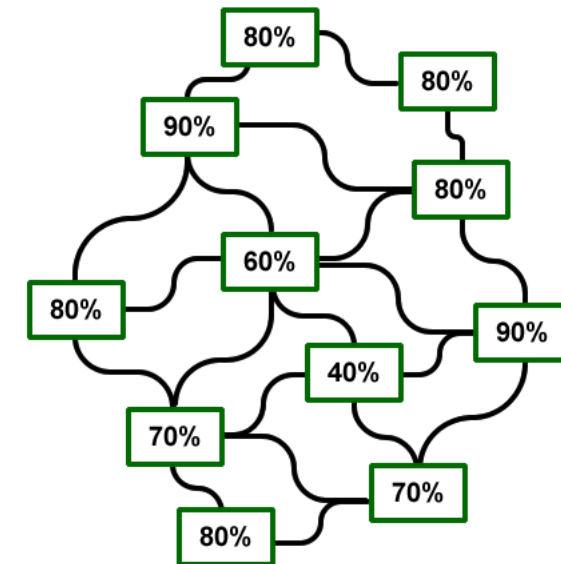
High Impact  
Low Probability Event  
(HILP) as classified by  
NERC

- Outage process divided into two phases: the slow cascade and fast cascade phases<sup>[1]</sup>.
- **Fast phase** -- often driven by the transient dynamics of the system and triggering of protection devices.

[1] P. Henneaux, J. Song E. Cotilla-Sanchez, "Dynamic probabilistic risk assessment of cascading outages," *2015 IEEE Power & Energy Society General Meeting*, 2015, pp. 1-5. and

# Motivation and Research Gap

- ▶ **Fast phase of cascade** ---*too fast (inter-failure characteristic times ~ ms/10s) to allow SO to take corrective actions.*
  - *occurrence order and timing are driven by the power system's dynamic evolution in the course of the transient.*
- ▶ Key enablers for a resilient response include the capacity to anticipate, absorb, rapidly recover from, adapt to, and learn from such an event -- *defined by IEEE PES Task Force<sup>[2]</sup>.*
- ▶ Fast Prediction in real-world settings is critical --- **use of Machine Learning!**
- ▶ Dynamic modelling+ Protection devices + varying operating conditions --- **large scale combinatorial problem !**
- ▶ Power system dynamic trajectories – **spatio-temporal in nature!**



**Network running normally**

# Graph Theoretic Modelling

**Power system weighted graph<sup>[3]</sup>,  $G(V, E)$**

Graph: Nodes ( $V$ ) – buses, Edges ( $E$ ) – lines.

$$\text{card}[V] = n, \text{card}[E] = l$$

$$n \in (n_g, n_l)$$

Electrical grid signals indexed by such a graph.

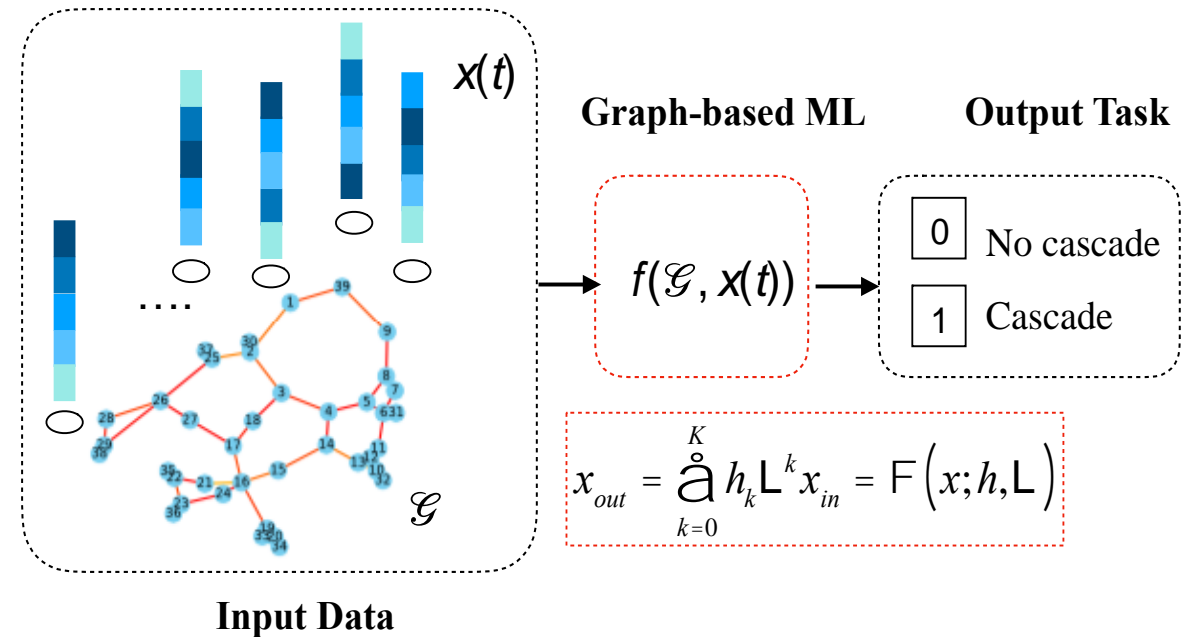
Spatial correlations between different power system buses represented by **weighted adjacency matrix,  $\tilde{A}$**

$$\tilde{A} = |Y_{bus}|$$

Normalized Graph Laplacian,  $\mathcal{L}$

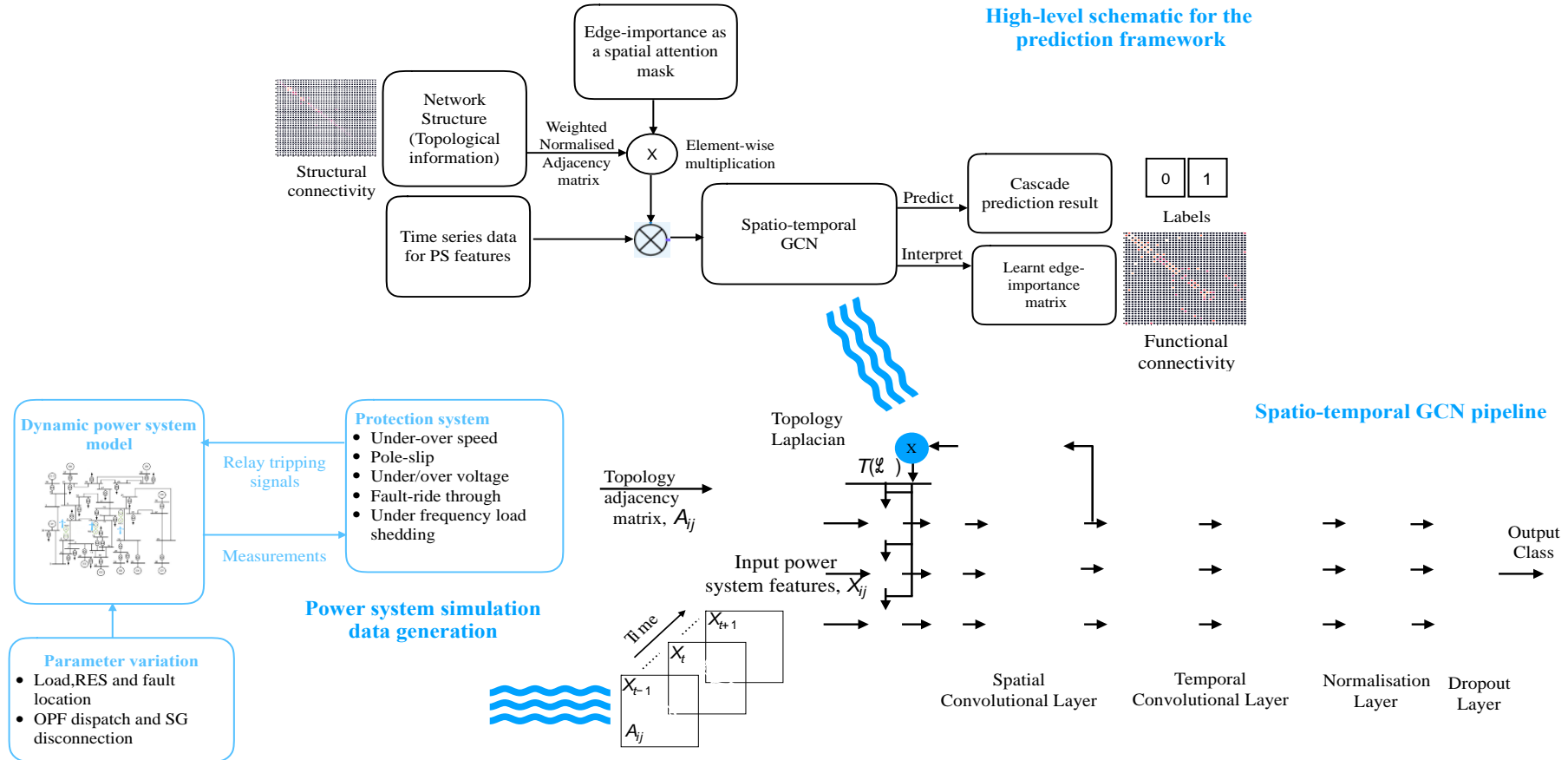
$$\mathcal{L} = D^{-\frac{1}{2}} \tilde{A} D^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

where,  $D$  is the degree matrix of the graph.



[3] R. Ramakrishna and A. Scaglione, "Grid-Graph Signal Processing (Grid-GSP): A Graph Signal Processing Framework for the Power Grid," in *IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing*, vol. 69, pp. 2725-2739, 2021.

# Model Framework



[4] Bing Yu, Haoteng Yin, and Zhanxing Zhu. Spatio-temporal graph convolutional networks: A deep learning framework for traffic forecasting. arXiv preprint arXiv:1709.04875, 2017.

[5] T. Ahmad, PN Papadopoulos, "Prediction of Cascading Failures and Simultaneous Learning of Functional Connectivity in Power System" ISGT Europe, Novi Sad, Serbia, 2022.

# Edge-Importance Matrix: Functional Connectivity in Power System

## Edge-Importance based Spatial Attention Mask

For ST-GCN output/input features,  $x_{out}$  are calculated as

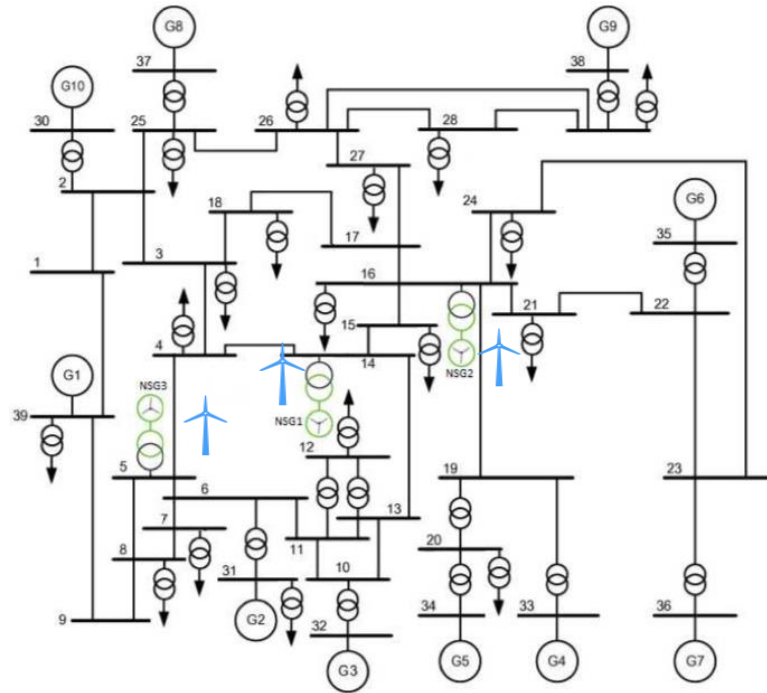
$$x_{out} = G_g^{-\frac{1}{2}} (\tilde{A}) G_g^{-\frac{1}{2}} x_{in} W$$

This matrix is shared across all st – GCN layers by replacing  $(\tilde{A})$  by  $(\tilde{A}) \times M$  (element-wise multiplication)

where,  $x_{in}, x_{out}$  are the input/output features,  $W$  is the weights Matrix and  $G_g$  is the kernel obtained from spatial graph convolution.

*Diagonal entries of  $M$  (self-connection) quantify the importance for each node, while off-diagonal entries do so for each functional connection (edge)*

# Case Study



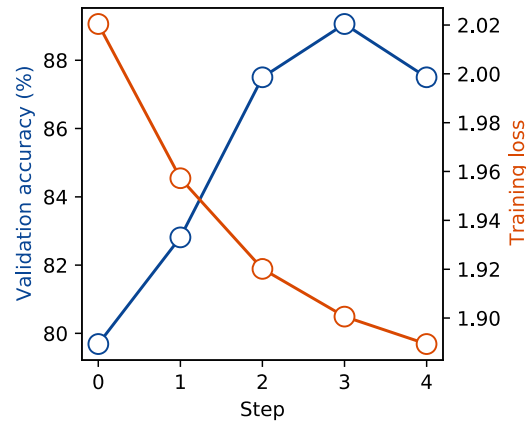
 Wind generators    
  Synchronous generators

- **Features**  $(X \text{ } n \text{ } T_w) = (11000 \text{ } 39 \text{ } 10)$
- **Adjacency matrix**  $\tilde{A} \in R^{n \times n} = |Y_{bus}|$
- **Labels**  $(Y) = (11000 \text{ } 1)$

- Training and testing data generated by simulating a **hybrid dynamic model** (including synchronous machines, RES (wind-generation), associated controls and protection devices) for **IEEE 10 machine 39 bus New England Test System** [2].
- **3-phase fault on transmission lines** as initiating events; **incremental load and wind power demand**.
- **Power system features** (voltage magnitude,  $V_{mag}$  (in p.u.) assumed to be captured by PMU).
- Posed as a **binary classification problem**.

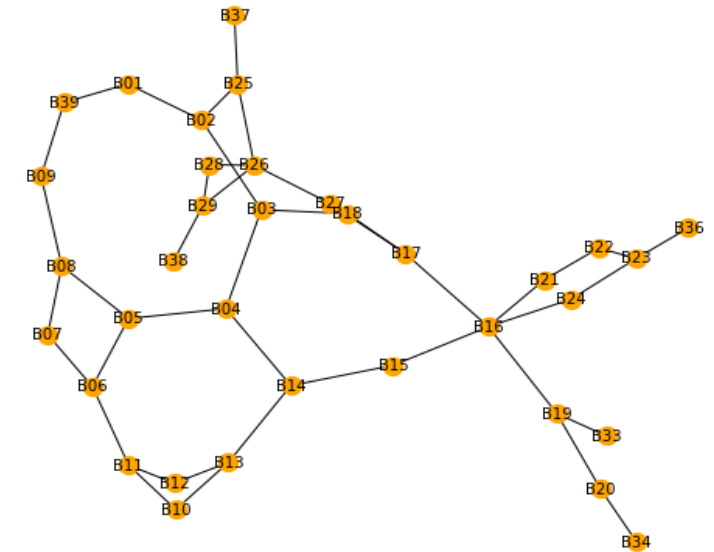
# Results

- Stratified K-fold cross validation for  $k = 5$  splits is used for different training and testing data splits.



Line 16 - 19	0.7	0	0	0	1	[('G 05', 'Over-Speed', '1.70')]
Line 01 - 02	0.7	0	0	0	1	[('G 01', 'Under-Speed', '5.00')]
Line 01 - 39	0.7	0	0	0	1	[('G 02', 'UV', '2.73'), ('G 01', 'Under-Speed', '5.79')]
Line 01 - 02	0.7	0	0	0.2	1	[('G 02', 'UV', '2.70'), ('G 03', 'UV', '2.92'), ('G 01', 'Under-Speed', '6.64'), ('NSG_3', 'UnderVoltage', '9.29')]
Line 16 - 19	0.7	0	0	0.4	1	[('G 05', 'Over-Speed', '1.73'), ('Load 29A_UF', '9.79'), ('Load 28A_UF', '9.79'), ('Load 25A_UF', '9.80'), ('Load 26A_UF', '9.80'), ('Load 08A_UF', '9.93')]
Line 16 - 21	0.7	0	0.2	0	1	[('NSG_2', 'OverVoltage', '2.12')]

*The graph induced by dynamic functional connectivity correctly predicts the location within 1-hop and 2-hop neighborhood for all scenarios.*



*Training performance for the st - GCN + EdgImp classifier averaged over validation folds.*

Classifier	Classification Performance (%) (seed = 17)			
	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1 score
vanilla st-GCN	92.56±1.55	84	93.22	88.36
st-GCN+EdgImp	96.83±1.03	96.45	96.36	96.41

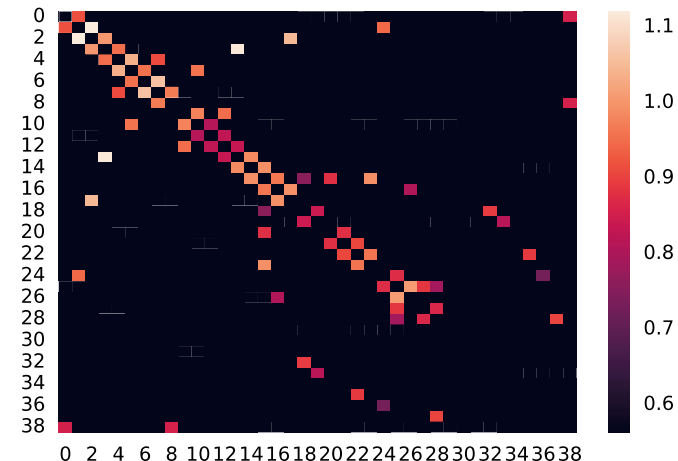
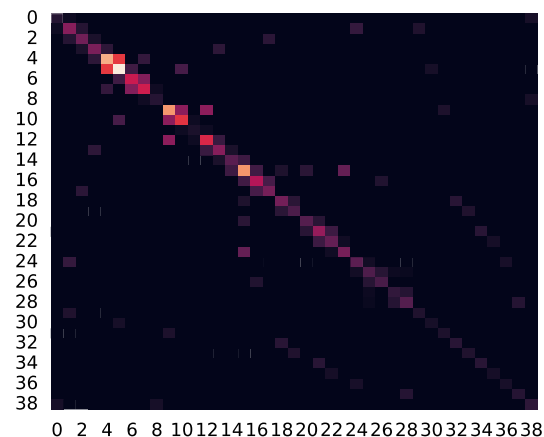
*The inclusion of Edge Importance matrix in st-GCN further improves the key performance metrics than using the vanilla st-GCN.*



# Interpretable Insights

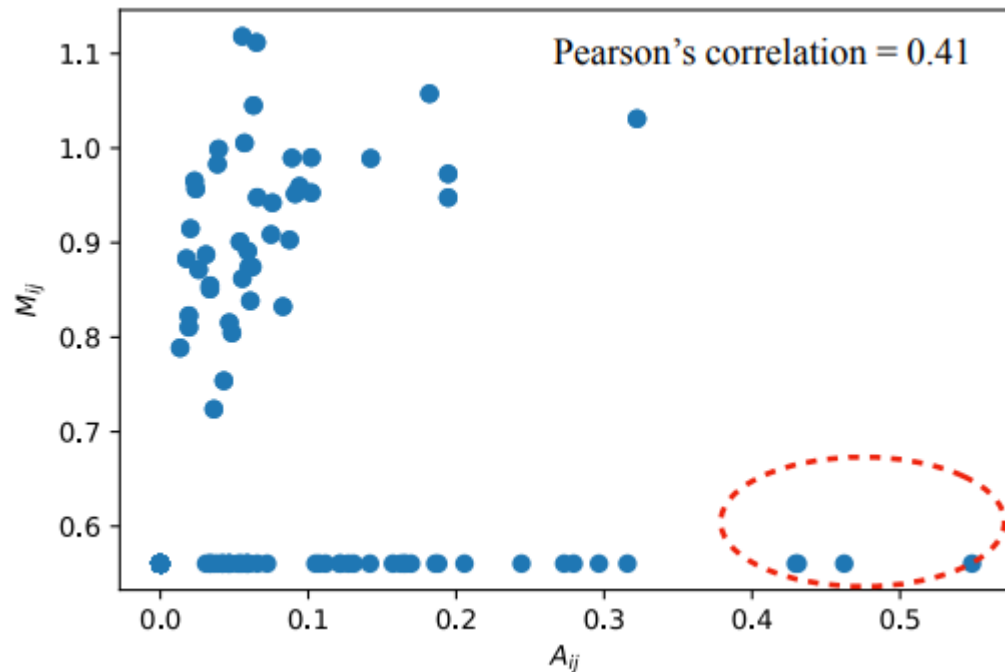
- Lack of interpretability in “black-box neural networks” - hinder their deployment under *mission critical systems such as the power system*.
- Current work introduces, **edge importance matrix,  $M$  as an additional trainable parameter** inside the *st-GCN* to reveal the influence of a set of nodes and edges in model prediction.
- **Diagonal elements** of  $M$  depict the relative importance of various **power system buses (graph nodes)**, while the **off-diagonal elements of  $M$**  depict the **importance of power system lines (graph edges)** in the prediction of cascades.

$|Y_{bus}|$  matrix is sparse matrix mirroring the physical topology of the grid



$M$  is a dense matrix, with **significant off diagonal elements**, mirroring the importance of **not only local but also multi-hop interactions**.

# Interpretable Insights



- There is some positive correlation between ***admittance-based connectivity matrix*** and ***dynamic functional connectivity matrix***.
- Some counter-intuitive cases where *tightly coupled elements of admittance connectivity* have no impact on *dynamic functional connectivity for failures*.

# Concluding Remarks

- Work illustrates the potential of an interpretable, spatio-temporal graph learning framework to *predict the occurrence of dynamic cascading failures* in a *hybrid power system* (i.e. including power system dynamics and discrete actions of protection devices).
- The st-GCN model achieves improved performance when trained along with *importance matrix based spatial attention mask*.
- From the sparsity patterns of matrices  $|Y_{\text{bus}}|$  and  $M$ , it can be inferred that *lighter the colour gradient, closer are the buses/lines in their admittance based electrical connectivity and functional connectivity respectively*.
- Could be useful in preventive (e.g., hardening critical components) and corrective control for mitigating the risk of catastrophic failures.

# Future Work

- In order to build trust in the learnt sensitivities to cascading failures ( $M$  learnt using  $V_{\text{mag}}$ ) using the proposed method, comparison with relevant physics-based sensitivity<sup>[3]</sup> makes sense.
- Future work also includes investigating the transferability of the st-GCN based learning framework in case of topology changes and out of distribution data.
- Explore the possibility of *edge-importance matrix* as an **actual distance metric** to acquire additional (perhaps causal) insights into power system functional graph.

[3] Simpson-Porco, J. W, et al Voltage collapse in complex power grids. *Nature communications*, 7(1), 1-8.

# Thank you !

Further reading at ...  
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