EVALUATING TIN CASE CORRUPTION POTRAYAL IN THE JAKARTA POST: APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK

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Abstract
The appraisal framework serves as the methodology to evaluate language in news articles, revealing journalists' and news media outlets' nuanced expressions of attitudes, emotions, and engagement in their reporting. This study embarks on an exploration of the appraisal framework within a selection of four news articles from The Jakarta Post, each addressing the pervasive issue of tin case corruption, resulting in a staggering loss of 271 trillion Rupiah for Indonesia. This study employs a qualitative descriptive design, utilizing Martin and White's (2005) appraisal analysis framework within Systemic Functional Linguistics. The appraisal theory is applied to examine the news outlet's language in reporting on corruption cases. The findings suggest a predominant utilization of heterogloss (30%) and judgement (25%) which indicates a multifaceted approach characterized by the incorporation of diverse viewpoints and critical evaluations towards the corruption unfolding in the tin case. Notably, monogloss (17.5%) and graduation (17.5%) also feature prominently, reflecting a balanced discourse that encompasses both singular perspectives and nuanced expressions of intensity. Additionally, the usage of appreciation (5%) and focus (5%) is comparatively minimal, suggesting a lesser emphasis on acknowledging positive actions or delineating specific aspects within the coverage. This research illuminates the relationship between journalistic language and public perceptions of corruption, highlighting the need for critical evaluation of media coverage to promote informed discourse and enhance anti-corruption efforts.

Keywords: *Appraisal Analysis, Corruption, News Media, The Jakarta Post*

1. INTRODUCTION

The influence of the media is normatively accepted as crucial in shaping public discourse and debate (Kramer, 2013). For some people news reporting is seen as a crucial information centre and news media is considered as a substantive discourse (Prastikawati, 2021). News media serve as virtual gateways to a vast array of news articles, features, analyses, and opinion pieces covering a wide range of topics from local to global significance. One of the key functions of news media is to keep the public informed about current events and developments, serving as a primary source of news for many individuals. By delivering timely and relevant information, news media enables people to stay up-to-date with the latest happenings in their communities,

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countries, and around the world. This helps citizens make informed decisions, engage in civic discourse, and participate actively in democratic processes.

Additionally, news media serve as platforms for investigative journalism, exposing corruption, injustice, and wrongdoing. Media plays a key role in exposing corruption and raising general awareness of its detrimental effect upon society, as well as in promoting integrity and accountability norms, values and practices in society (Elsedigge, 2023). Political events frequently make paper headlines, or are even dominant among the media coverage. News of corruption in the mass media is part of the political coverage that influences the nation's development, this is the reason why political news has a large portion of the media (Pramesti & Arifin, 2017) making corruption news stands out as one of the most searched topics. Therefore, an evaluative use of language through an appraisal analysis is one of the ways in achieving the conveyance of the news to readers (Prastikawati, 2021).

News media is widely understood to have an obligation to promote good governance and facilitate debates about corruption in several ways. These include raising public awareness about the causes, consequences and possible remedies for corruption (Rose-Ackerman, 2003; Peruzzotti & Smulovitz, 2006). The media can help mobilize the public against corruption and build pressure for reforms. They can raise standards of public accountability by monitoring and investigating the actions of those who were granted public trust, exposing corruption cases, and increasing the costs and risks associated with corrupt behaviours. Informing the public and presenting different points of views can also encourage public participation as well as support political competition by putting politicians under

pressure to take a stand against corruption (Nogara in Elsedigge, 2023).

Corruption remains a persistent challenge in Indonesia, with far-reaching implications for governance, economic development, and social justice. A foreign media reports that:

> *"Long considered one of the most corrupt countries in the world, tales of corruption continue to afflict Indonesia despite its shift from an autocratic to a democratic state near the turn of the 21st century. More than 8 in 10 Indonesians say that corruption is widespread throughout the nation's government and businesses. Compared with citizens in other Southeast Asian countries, Indonesians are much more likely to say that corruption is prevalent in both the government and business sectors".* **(Gallup Online Media*)***

Previous study on appraisal have been conducted by many researchers: Prastikawati (2021) highlights the attitude perspective in news discourse using the appraisal framework. The findings revealed that the most dominant attitude subsystem used in the BBC News article was the effect of unhappiness. Further, Chalimah, et.al, (2022) explores judgement value on corruption in online news to see the pattern of the social sanction and its impact in giving self-reflection to readers as public figures in Indonesia through systemic functional linguistics theory: appraisal. The findings are benefit to see how the news text show critical expression that can influence the readers' emotion. Another similar study was carried out by Albert (2015), he discusses corruption case as a discourse, the result of the study shows that the use of strong judgement as indicated by

absence of modality shows that the appraisers try to get public support.

Another interesting research is conducted by White (2003), this research provides a foundational understanding of how appraisal theory can be applied to media texts, offering insights into the evaluative strategies used in corruption news coverage. Van Djik (2009) conduct similar study of the frame of corruption in media discourse. Using a combination of discourse analysis and appraisal theory, the research uncovers how news media construct narratives around corruption cases. The findings suggest that media framing significantly affects public perceptions and attitudes towards corruption. This research highlights the interplay between media framing and public perception, providing a valuable perspective on how appraisal resources are employed to frame corruption in the news.

Previous studies on appraisal in news discourse have primarily focused on the evaluative strategies used in Western media (e.g., BBC News) or broad analyses of judgement values and framing in various media contexts. However, there is a notable gap in the application of Martin and White's appraisal framework to Indonesian media, specifically The Jakarta Post, in the context of corruption news. This study aims to fill this gap by undertaking a comprehensive analysis of Indonesian corruption news coverage within the pages of The Jakarta Post, utilizing an innovative appraisal framework. As one of the most significant English-language newspapers in the country, The Jakarta Post serves as a critical platform for reporting on and analyzing issues related to corruption. The Jakarta Post is Indonesia's largest English language paper with extensive local and foreign readership, therefore, it has the potential to influence social, economic, and political decisions (Davies, Stone, & Buttle, 2016). The choice of The Jakarta Post as the focal point for this analysis is grounded in its reputation for journalistic integrity, wide readership, and influence within both domestic and international audiences.

By systematically evaluating the newspaper's reporting practices, thematic emphases, and discursive strategies, this study seeks to provide valuable insights into how corruption is portrayed, perceived, and understood in the Indonesian media landscape. Through the development and application of an appraisal framework tailored to the specific context of corruption news, this research endeavors to shed light on the complexities of media representation, public discourse, and anti-corruption efforts in Indonesia. By critically examining the content, framing, and impact of corruption-related news stories, this study aims to contribute to scholarly understanding and practical interventions aimed at addressing corruption and promoting transparency, accountability, and good governance in Indonesia and beyond.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

The appraisal framework is part of Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) which extends SFL's interpersonal metafunction, It analyzes how language expresses attitudes, judgements, and emotions, and engages with audiences. This framework is valuable for examining evaluative language in media, politics, academia, and everyday conversation. Appraisal theory is considered as a powerful tool for engaging with discourse analysis, since it is one of the most comprehensive linguistic frameworks for studying grammatical and lexical resources which convey explicit or implicit evaluative meanings (Martin & White, 2005).

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2.1 Attitude

The attitude subsystem of the Appraisal framework plays a crucial role in understanding how language conveys emotions, evaluations, and stances. Martin and White (2005) articulate that Attitude encompasses three primary domains: Affect, Judgement, and Appreciation. Affect pertains to the emotional responses expressed in language, capturing both direct feelings and inferred emotions (Martin & White, 2005). Judgement evaluates human behavior and character, dividing into social esteem and social sanction, thus providing a nuanced lens through which to assess interpersonal dynamics (White, 2001). Appreciation, on the other hand, allows for the evaluation of objects and phenomena, bridging emotional and aesthetic responses with broader social values (Martin, 2000).

2.2 Engagement

The Engagement subsystem of the Appraisal framework is pivotal for understanding how speakers and writers manage the dialogic space in communication. Martin and White (2005) elaborate that Engagement encompasses both Monoglossia, which presents information without acknowledging alternative viewpoints, and Heteroglossia, which involves recognizing and negotiating multiple perspectives. Heteroglossia is further divided into Dialogic Contraction and Dialogic Expansion, reflecting the degree to which speakers limit or open up space for other voices (Martin & White, 2005).

2.3 Graduation

The Graduation subsystem of the appraisal framework is essential for understanding how language scales the intensity and categorization of phenomena. Martin and White (2005) describe Graduation as encompassing both Force and Focus, which respectively deal with adjusting the intensity and categorical boundaries of expressions. Force includes intensification and quantification, allowing speakers to amplify or diminish qualities, processes, amounts, and extents (Martin & White, 2005). Focus, on the other hand, involves sharpening or softening categorical boundaries, thus making entities more or less prototypical (Martin, 2000).

3. RESEARCH METHOD

3.1 Research Design

This study employs a qualitative descriptive design to explore and understand the linguistic features of news texts about tin case corruption making Indonesia loss 271 trillion rupiahs. According to Sandelowski (2000), qualitative descriptive studies are used to provide a comprehensive summary of event in the everyday terms of those events. This design is particularly suitable for obtaining straight descriptions of phenomena and is less interpretative compared to other qualitative methodologies. The study uses appraisal theory within the framework of Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) to analyze how language is used to convey engagement, attitude, and graduation in the selected news texts based on Martin and White's (2005) theory.

3.2 Source of the Data

Four news articles about tin corruption were chosen for analysis. The source of these writings is The Jakarta

Post online news portal. The criteria for selection included relevance to the subject of tin corruption and accessibility of the entire text for examination. Since the news texts used in this study are accessible to the public, there is no overt ethical issues with participant permission or confidentiality. The description of each news article is described as follows:

a. AGO Uncovers Corruption in Indonesia's Tin Sector, published online on March 30th 2024.
b. Reckless Mining Oversight, published online on April 8th 2024.
c. AGO Names Ex-official at Energy Ministry New Suspect in Timah graft case, published online on May 29th 2024.
d. Cicak vs Buaya Redux, published online on May 29th 2024.

3.3 Data Analysis

The analytical framework employed in this study was grounded in Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), specifically utilizing the appraisal theory as delineated by Martin and White (2005). This approach focuses on three principal components: attitude, engagement, and graduation. Initially, each news text underwent multiple iterations of close reading, a practice advocated by Saldana (2013) to ensure thorough familiarization with the content. This iterative process aligns with Saldana's emphasis on the importance of repeated engagement with the text to facilitate comprehensive initial coding and capture the nuanced essence of the data.

The analytical procedure was structured as follows:

1. Iterative close reading of each news article to achieve deep familiarity with the content.
2. Segmentation of the textual data into clausal units for granular analysis.
3. Systematic examination of each clause to identify instances of attitude, engagement, or graduation, as per the appraisal framework.
4. Quantification of the frequency of each appraisal realization.
5. Tabulation and diagrammatic representation of the results to elucidate distribution patterns and percentage allocations.
6. Synthesis of findings to derive meaningful conclusions.

4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION
4.1 Result

In an analysis of four articles from *The Jakarta Post* covering the corruption case in Indonesia's tin mining industry, the researchers employed the appraisal analysis framework to investigate how the newspaper represented this issue. The findings are categorized based on the realization of different appraisal resources: Attitude (Judgement, Appreciation, Affect), Engagement (Monogloss, Heterogloss), and Graduation (Force and Focus). The findings of this study are presented in the following table and diagram:

Table 1. The Distribution of Appraisal Resources Used in *The Jakarta Post*'s Reporting on the Corruption Case in Indonesia's Tin Mining Industry

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REALIZATION		DISTRIBUTION	PERCENTAGE
ATTITUDE	Judgement	10	25%
	Appreciation	2	5%
	Affect	0	0%
ENGAGEMENT	Monogloss	7	17,5%
	Heterogloss	12	30%
GRADUATION	Force	7	17,5%
	Focus	2	5%
Total		40	100%

This table categorizes Appraisal resources in The Jakarta Post's coverage of Indonesia's tin mining corruption case, using Martin and White's (2005) framework. The corpus for this analysis consists of 40 data extracted from four selected news articles reporting tin corruption issues published in The Jakarta Post. Each data underwent examination to ascertain its corresponding Appraisal resource type. The tabular representation serves a dual purpose: it elucidates the distribution of these resources across the corpus and highlights the relative prevalence of each resource type. Attitude, the first major category, is subdivided into Judgement, Appreciation, and Affect. Judgement, which evaluates behaviour, appears 10 times, constituting 25% of the total instances. Appreciation, dealing with the evaluation of things or phenomena, occurs twice (5%), while Affect, expressing emotion, is notably absent (0%). Engagement, the second category, is divided into Monogloss and Heterogloss. Monogloss, representing bare assertions, appears 7 times (17.5%), while Heterogloss, acknowledging multiple viewpoints, is the most frequent resource overall with 12 instances (30%). Graduation, the third category, comprises Force and Focus. Force, which intensifies or quantifies, occurs 7 times (17.5%), while Focus, which sharpens or softens categorical meanings, appears twice (5%).
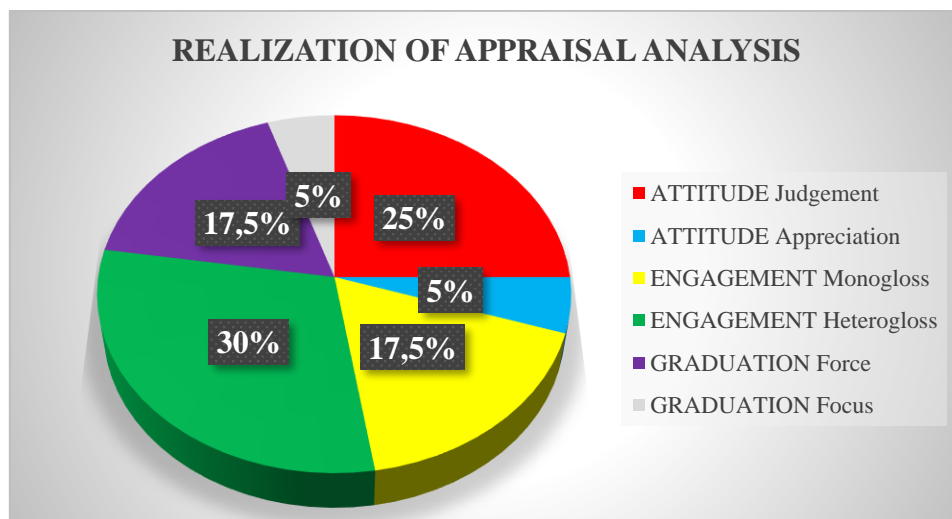

Figure 1. The Distribution of Appraisal Resources Used in *The Jakarta Post*'s Reporting on the Corruption Case in Indonesia's Tin Mining Industry

The pie chart visualizes the distribution of different appraisal resources used in *The Jakarta Post*'s reporting on the corruption case in Indonesia's tin mining industry. Here is a detailed description of what the figure conveys:

Engagement - Heterogloss (30%):
The green segment, representing Heterogloss, constitutes the largest portion of the pie chart at 30%. Heterogloss refers to the use of language that acknowledges multiple voices or viewpoints within a text. This high occurrence indicates that *The Jakarta Post* frequently incorporates various perspectives into its reporting on the corruption case. In the context of the analyzed articles, the frequent use of Heterogloss is evident through the several quotations from experts and officials. For instance, in the quoted example:

Data 10: *"This is a very old case but it hadn't been discovered, so we appreciate [the prosecution] by the AGO," he told reporters on Thursday"*.

This statement illustrates how *The Jakarta Post* integrates the viewpoints of experts to provide depth and credibility to its coverage. By quoting experts, the newspaper ensures that readers are presented with informed opinions and analyses, which helps to elucidate the complexities of the corruption case.The inclusion of direct speech ("he told reporters on Thursday") introduces a heteroglossic element into the discourse. By quoting the speaker's words directly, the sentence incorporates a different voice or perspective.

Attitude - Judgement (25%):
The red segment, representing Judgement, constitutes 25% of the total appraisal resources in the analyzed articles from *The Jakarta Post*. Judgement involves evaluative language that assesses the behavior of individuals or entities, often in terms of morality, legality, and social acceptability. This significant presence of Judgement indicates that *The Jakarta Post* places considerable emphasis on moral and ethical evaluations when reporting on the corruption case in Indonesia's tin mining industry. By frequently using evaluative language, the newspaper highlights the wrongdoings and unethical actions of those involved, aiming to foster public accountability and shape public opinion towards demanding better governance and law enforcement. The specific example provided underscores this approach by critiquing poor law enforcement and its detrimental impact on Indonesia's democratic aspirations:

Data 27: *The Indonesian public and the international community would agree that poor law enforcement has notably slowed the country's journey to become a robust democracy.*

Engagement - Monogloss (17,5%)
The yellow segment, covering 17.5%, represents the use of Monoglossic statements in *The Jakarta Post*'s reporting on the corruption case. Monogloss refers to language that presents information as given and unchallenged, without acknowledging other perspectives or voices. This type of statement is straightforward, often conveying facts or assertions that are presented as widely accepted or indisputable.

Data 1: *The Attorney General's Office (AGO) is investigating a massive corruption case involving state-owned tin-mining giant PT Timah.*

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This statement provides clear, factual information about the ongoing investigation. It identifies the key entities involved: the Attorney General's Office (AGO) and PT Timah, a state-owned tin-mining company. The sentence represents a single voice or perspective, conveying the information as a straightforward fact without integrating additional viewpoints or voices. There is no mention of conflicting opinions or alternative interpretations, making it a quintessential example of a Monoglossic statement. By presenting this information as unchallenged, the statement implies that the investigation is a matter of public record and not subject to dispute. This helps establish the gravity and legitimacy of the situation.

Graduation - Force (17,5%):
Represented by the purple segment at 17,5%, Force relates to the intensity or degree of expressions. This shows that the newspaper used language that emphasizes the magnitude or seriousness of the corruption case, stressing its importance and impact. The force realization in language indicates a deliberate emphasis on the magnitude or seriousness of the issue being discussed—in this case, a corruption case. The newspaper employs language that underscores the importance and impact of corruption, aiming to evoke a strong reaction or sense of urgency among its readers, as seen in this following sentence:

Data 2: *Despite the entry of new mining companies after the Reform era, Timah has maintained the largest concession area at more than 288,000 hectares of land with more than 184,000 ha in the waters between Bangka Island and Kondur Island.*

This example presented within the article further elucidates the notion of force in language. These precise numerical figures serve as a forceful illustration of Timah's continued significance. By quantifying the size of Timah's operations, the article emphasizes the company's unparalleled scale and operational scope within the mining industry. he use of forceful language, as demonstrated by the newspaper's emphasis on the corruption case and the quantification of Timah's concession area, serves to underscore the gravity of the situations being discussed. This deliberate choice of language aims to capture the attention of readers, highlight the importance of the issues at hand, and ultimately, influence perceptions and responses towards them.

Attitude - Appreciation (5%)
The blue segment, accounting for 5%, indicates the use of Appreciation, which evaluates objects, events, and states of affairs. The low occurrence suggests that the newspaper focused less on appraising the situation's impact or quality and more on the behaviours and actions of the individuals involved, as can be realized by the following data:

Data 34: *Febrie stole media attention a few years ago for bringing to justice actors behind corrupt practices that condemned state insurance companies PT Jiwasraya and PT Asabri to bankruptcy.*

The attitude conveyed in the sentence is supportive and positive toward Febrie's actions. It suggests that the writer views his efforts favorably and recognizes his importance in addressing corruption and its consequences. By stating that Febrie "stole media attention" and "brought to justice actors behind corrupt practices," the sentence appreciates his efforts and

accomplishments. It acknowledges the significance of his actions in addressing corruption within state insurance companies, which resulted in bankruptcy.

Graduation - Focus (5%):
The grey segment, also at 5%, represents Focus, which involves the precision and sharpness of categories. The limited use of Focus might indicate a preference for broader categorizations, maintaining clarity for a general audience without overcomplicating the narrative.

Data 15: *The Palembang sultanate that ruled the islands at that time even had to bring in workers from China to work in the mines to fulfil the production quota it had agreed to with the Dutch.*

This sentence highlights the use of graduation focus as it emphasizes the historical significance and specific details of an event, highlighting the necessity and extent of the actions taken by the Palembang sultanate. Graduation involves scaling the intensity or degree of an expression. In this sentence, the graduation is evident in the emphasis on the specific historical actions taken by the Palembang sultanate to meet a production quota, highlighting the significance of these actions. The sentence focuses on specific historical details: the Palembang sultanate, the time period ("that ruled the islands at that time"), the origin of the workers (China), and the purpose (to fulfil the production quota agreed upon with the Dutch). This detailed focus sharpens the reader's understanding and appreciation of the historical context and actions taken.

4.2 Discussion

The findings from the appraisal analysis reveal several insights into how *The Jakarta Post* reported on the corruption case in Indonesia's tin mining industry. The predominant use of Judgement (25%) highlights a strong evaluative stance towards the actions of the involved parties. This suggests that the newspaper is not merely reporting events but is also actively engaging in moral and ethical commentary, potentially to influence public opinion and accountability. The minimal use of Affect (0%) aligns with journalistic norms of objectivity, suggesting that *The Jakarta Post* aims to present the news in a neutral tone, avoiding overt emotional expression. This approach can enhance the perceived reliability of the reporting but might also limit the emotional engagement of the audience.

The significant presence of Heterogloss (30%) indicates an effort to incorporate multiple viewpoints, reflecting a commitment to balanced reporting. By acknowledging different perspectives, the newspaper provides a more comprehensive understanding of the issue, which can help readers form a well-rounded opinion. The combined use of Monogloss (17.5%) and Force (17.5%) suggests a dual strategy: presenting certain facts as uncontested while emphasizing the severity of the corruption case. This combination can effectively highlight the importance of the issue while ensuring that critical information is conveyed with clarity and impact.

The relatively low occurrence of Appreciation (5%) and Focus (5%) suggests that *The Jakarta Post* concentrated less on appraising the situation's broader implications and more on the evaluative judgement of the involved parties' actions. This focus might be intended to direct public scrutiny towards the individuals responsible for the corruption rather than the systemic or contextual factors. In summary, the appraisal analysis of *The*

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Jakarta Post's reporting on the tin mining corruption case reveals a nuanced approach that balances evaluative judgement with a presentation of multiple perspectives, all while maintaining journalistic objectivity. This strategy likely aims to inform the public comprehensively while driving home the ethical and moral implications of the corruption. These findings contribute to our understanding of media practices in covering significant economic and political issues in Indonesia, highlighting the role of appraisal resources in shaping public discourse.

5. CONCLUSION

This study focuses on analyzing the portrayal of Indonesian mega corruption within the context of the tin case, as reported by the Jakarta Post. Through the application of appraisal framework, the study attempts to uncover the attitudes, engagement styles, and graduation approaches evident in the media coverage of this significant issue. The analysis reveals several key findings. Firstly, there is a prevalent negative attitude towards corruption in the tin case, with a majority of judgements. However, there is also a dearth of appreciation for positive actions. The study also highlights the diversity of engagement within the issue, ranging from monoglossic to heteroglossic perspectives. This reflects the complex nature of corruption discourse in

Indonesia, with various voices contributing to the discussion. Additionally, the study identifies a mix of graduation approaches in the media coverage, encompassing both forceful language and focused discussions. This nuanced response underscores the multifaceted nature of corruption and the diverse ways in which it is addressed in public discourse.

The implications of this research are significant for media literacy and anti-corruption efforts. By highlighting the nuances in media portrayal of corruption, it emphasizes the need for critical reading and interpretation of news articles. For policymakers and anti-corruption agencies, understanding these media patterns can inform more effective communication strategies. The researchers suggest future research can expand on this study by comparing coverage across multiple news outlets, both domestic and international, to provide a more comprehensive view of corruption discourse in Indonesia. Overall, the analysis provides valuable insights into the portrayal of Indonesian corruption in the tin case by the Jakarta Post. By understanding these realizations, readers may gain a deeper understanding of the complexities surrounding tin corruption issue, while future studies can build upon these findings to further enhance our understanding of media's role in shaping corruption discourse.

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